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IN THE OFFICE OF THE

SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH,

CONFORMABLY TO ACTS

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FEBRUARY 15, 1851, & MARCH 1, 1852.

BY

SAMUEL HAZARD.

COMMENCING 1781.

VOLUME IX.

PHILADELPHIA:
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1854.

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY.

Rev. Wm. Rogers to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Phil^{a}, March 12, 1781

May it please the Council,

Observing in last Weeks Papers Directions given & Gentlemen appointed for settling the Depreciation of the Pay of the Officers & Soldiers of the Penns^{a} line, Concluding with a Request that all Persons claiming Benefitt under the Act passed for said Purpose to attend, &c., as otherwise they will be in Danger of Exclusion.

As no mention whatever is made of the Chaplains who claim a Benefitt & they being not Consider'd as Regimental but Brigade Officers, the Subscriber in Behalf of himself and Doct^{r} Jones wishes to know where & when we are to apply for an Adjustment of our Accounts and he makes no Doubt but that His Excellency the President of the State & the hon^{ble} the Council will give him all necessary Information.

And with all due Respect he Remains the Council's most Obed^{t} & very humble Servt.

W. ROGERS, B^{ds} Chapl^{s}
Penns^{a} Line.

If Council should judge it most Convenient for us to wait the Return of the Auditors in General to this City—We shall be thereby greatly oblig'd.

Directed,

The hon^{ble} the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed,—From Rev. Mr Rogers, March 12, 1781.

Answ^{d} by informing him he will be heard by the Auditors in Philad^{a}.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Lieutenant of the County of Lancaster & the first Magistrate of the County have made a Representation to us that the Magazine at that Place containing a great Quantity of Ammunition the Property of the United States is in a very insecure State & that the British Prisoners have been heard to drop Expressions which denote some bad intentions on that Score. We have thought it our Duty to send your Board the Information that you may take such Measures as you may judge necessary.

& am with much Respect, Gent.,
Your Obed. Hble Ser.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania
In General Assembly.

Monday, 12th March, 1781.

Whereas the Confederation of the United States is now happily compleated, and an opportunity is thereby offered to bring to final Settlement the long depending dispute between this State and that of Connecticut, Therefore

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to take all necessary and expeditious measures for the consideration and determination of the said dispute agreeable to the ninth Article of the Confederation of the United States.

Extract from the Minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.*

Directed,

His Excellency Jos. Reed, Esq., President, &c., of Pennsylvania.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania
In General Assembly.

Tuesday, 13th March, 1781.

The Report of the Committee of accounts on the allowance to be made to the Commissioners for extending Mason & Dixon's Line, &c., was read the second time, Whereupon

Resolved, that the sum of twenty shillings per Diem be paid to each of the Commissioners aforesaid during the time of their being employed in manner aforesaid, exclusive of all necessary contingent expenses which will be paid by the State.

Extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.†

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 657.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., page 661.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania
In General Assembly.

Tuesday, 13th March, 1781.

The Report of the Committee appointed to confer with a Committee of Council respecting the Property of Hog Island in the River Delaware, recommitted on the 24th ult., was returned by the Committee and read, Whereupon

Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be directed to prosecute the Claims of this State to the said Island as part of the forfeited estate of Joseph Galloway, an attainted Traitor.

Extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.*

Pres. Reed to Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

We lately† address'd you on the Subject of the Convention Prisoners —A matter which appeared to us of the greatest Importance to the peace & Interests of the State, & which we hoped would have engaged the Attention of the House of Assembly. As the movement of the British Prisoners has been founded on the Representation of the Legislative Power of Virginia & Maryland it appeared proper to oppose the like Weight to their remaining in this State. The Expence of these Troops we compute at £8,576 monthly, the furnishing of which cannot be delayed or dispensed with but at the Risque of the most alarming Consequences. If no Relief can be given on this Occasion we shall probably comply with the Direction of Congress as to the Places, only assigning Lancaster for the British & York for the Germans.—We have hitherto delayed giving orders for the militia Guards or the providing these Troops, flattering ourselves that the Germans at least might be forwarded to some other State. We therefore request that if the House think it of Consequence they will immediately take it into Consideration, & for their Information we forward the last Letter received from the Board of War on the Subject.

I am Sir,

with due Respect & Consideration.

Indorsed,—March 18, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 661.
† See Vol. VIII., pp. 753, 757, 758.

Pres. Reed to William Henry, 1781.

Sir,

Your several Favours of the 3d & 7 & 12* Inst. have been received & would have been answered sooner but for my Indisposition. We are sorry to find the Officers of the Army decline accepting the two Dollars, as we hoped in their distressed State for Want of Pay & Necessaries that this Sum would not have been beneath their Notice. If as a Symptom of finding themselves in a more comfortable State of Finance we should rejoice to hear it, but if it is too little for the Officers we think it too much for the Serjeant. Mr. W.'s Conduct has been the Subject of much Consideration & we are partly determined to remove him, but the Difficulty is to appoint the Successor—We really have a Reluctance to appoint Persons to Offices who have declined them in Days of Difficulty & are also disinclined to the Government, but if suitable Persons of another Character cannot be had we must appoint the others—You may depend upon it some Thing will be done shortly on this Subject.

With Respect to the Guard at the Magazines we supposed the Property to be of the United States, & have accordingly made strong Representations to the Board of War, accompanied with an Extract from your Letter & also from Col. Hubley on that Subject—As soon as any Determination is had we will let you know.

As Col. Atlee is now going home we hope he will put his Lieutenants Accounts in such Train as that you may receive the Money which may be due the Publick from that Quarter. We are most exceedingly distressed for Want even of small Sums, the Treasury being deplorably low & not in any likely Way to be recruited very soon.

You may depend upon it that no Use will be made of your Name in any Proceedings which respect Mr. W.

We are very apprehensive that Congress will order the Convention Prisoners to the Number of 2500 or 3000 to be stationed at Lancaster & York. We have wrote to our Delegates & done every Thing in our Power to prevent it, but we fear with little Effect. A Representation from the Inhabitants of Lancaster to their Members of Assembly would probably have a good Effect if the Measure appears to them disadvantageous to the State in general or the Town in particular.

I am Sir,

your Obed. Hble. Ser.

P. S. You will please to pay the Recruits their second Bounty as it becomes due, Council having given Directions for that Purpose which we hoped you had received.

Indorsed,

March 13, 1781.

* See Vol. VIII, pages 754, 761.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, March 13, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have been honoured with your Excellency's Letter of yesterday. We shall send for Col. Procter & examine into the Affair of the Boy whose Case you have been pleased to mention. By the Articles of War the Col. or commanding Officer of the Regiment is the proper Person to grant Discharges. We could have wished that the Gentlemen who undertook the Business of the Pennsilvania Line had determined this Matter, as it seems in its Nature to be similar to the Cases they have already decided upon. We are daily applied to by Soldiers who wish to have Discharges on one pretence or other, & are fearful of beginning the Practice of granting them, as we do not know how far it may lead. We shall not however be inattentive to your Recommendation, to which we wish to pay every Respect.

A very considerable Time ago we ordered the Dragoons of Col. Moylan's Regiment to take the Guard at Lancaster of the Magazine & publick Stores, & are at a Loss to know why our Orders were not complied with. The Stores & Ammunition are by no Means so considerable as the Inhabitants represent, but some Attention should be paid to them, & we thought we had provided for their Security by ordering the Guard before mentioned. We shall call upon the Commanding Officer to know the Reasons of his Failure to put our Directions into Execution.

We are not a little uneasy under the Situation of the Affairs of the Convention Prisoners who must e'er this, be far advanced on their Way to this State. It does not appear that Congress have made any Alteration in their first Determination upon this Subject, nor is it likely they will supercede their former Resolve, as we understand the Committee to whom the Matter was referred have reported that the Measures recommended therein should be persued. Taking it therefore for granted that the first Resolve will stand, we beg that Council will be pleased to adopt the proper Measures for sustaining & guarding these Prisoners at such Places as they shall deem most convenient in this State. The Artificers being at Carlisle we hope that Place will not be thought of, as we are preparing for vigorously carrying on the several Branches of Business necessary for the ensuing Campaign. These Preparations would have been now far advanced had it been in our Power to have kept the Men at Work, which could not be done for Want of Provisions & Money. Whatever Derangements or Disadvantages the Post at Carlisle labours under, it is the chief Dependance we have for the Preparation of Ordnance Stores.

We conceive that at least four hundred Rank & File of Militia,

properly officered, will be necessary as Guards on a Supposition that one Division of the Prisoners is kept at Lancaster, where they may be guarded by about one hundred & fifty Men. The Magazine at that Place should then be also guarded by the Militia. We know not in what Situation the Barracks at Lancaster are but presume if the Prisoners are to be there Council will be pleased to direct them to be put in Order at the Expence of the United States. Altho' at the Close of the Resolve of Congress on this Subject it should seem that this Board are to take Measures for providing Guards & Supplies for the Prisoners; we think it necessary to inform that we have no other Means in our Power than by calling on your Excellency & the Honble Council for Militia as Guards & for Supplies of Provisions in Part of the Quota requested by Congress of the State. When the Prisoners arrive we shall appoint an Officer to superintend them & see that due Order is preserved & the Supplies properly distributed.

We have the Honour to be
with the greatest Respect & Esteem
your very obed Servts.,
RICHARD PETERS,
By order.

Directed,
On public Service.
His Excellency President Reed, in Council.
War Office.

PRES. REED TO COL. ADAM HUBLEY, 1781.

March 14, 1781.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 3d Inst. has been duly received—inclosed you have the Resolutions of Council with Respect to the Volunteers, to whom you will observe that the Pay is due from the United States & that the Soldiers who are engaged for the War & served during the same Period have not yet received theirs.

Col. Atlee being now returned we hope you will be able to get the Business of the Lieutenants in Train, so as to have all due Arrangements made—This will be the more necessary if the Convention Prisoners should be brought into this State as proposed, Lancaster & York being the Places thought of for their Reception.

We have wrote to the Board of War respecting the Magazine, for as the Property is of the United States, we think it quite sufficient to find the Building without adding the Expence of a constant Guard. As soon as the Answer is received will let you know.

Council would have you bring down the Arms &c. from Cox's Town, & have them put in Order as soon as possible.

Supposing that Congress should require a Guard of us we should rather engage a few Men for a Constancy if to be had than go this Militia Detail. We wish you to inform us whether this may not be done.

I am Sir,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,

March 14, 1781.

Directed,

Col. A. Hubley.

Pres. Reed to Mons. Holker, 1781.

Sir,

My Indisposition last Week prevented my sending you the inclosed Memorandum of the particulars which were the Subject of Discussion last Fall in the Council & by which we apprehended the Interest of the State & its inhabitants & the necessary Harmony of publick Business to be material affected. The Change of Circumstances by taking off the Embargo & some other particulars have made farther Discussion less necessary for future Government than it would otherwise have been, but as we are disposed to attend to any Explanations you may think proper to give, the several Matters are stated for your Information & Consideration.

I am Sir,

your most Obe^t Hbble Servt.

Indorsed,

March 14, 1781.

Hr. Holker being Agent of the French Marine & Ships arriving with Merchandize to his Care & Direction which by the Laws of the States should have been reported at the Custom House & of which notice was given to Mr. Holker first by the Naval Officer & after Report by him of neglect by the President of the State, & an assurance given on the Part of Mr. Holker that all necessary Steps should be taken the same was finally omitted & the Vessels sailed again without any Regard to the Laws of the State in this particular. By Mr. Holkers going to the Office with Capt. Ethcart upon his arrival, & promising a Compliance with the Law as well as by the Nature of his Office as Agent, it is presumed Mr. Holker should done the Business himself or used effectual Measures to have had it done by Capt. Ethcart.

Secondly. When Commissioner appointed by the Assembly made

a Tour thro the State last Fall, great Complaints were made by the Inhabitants of the frontier Townships in Berks County, that Persons employed under some Contract with the Consul of France cutting Masts on the Waters of Schuylkill had brought the Depredations of the Indians on their settlements, occasioned a Call of Militia of 300 Men & thereby brought an Expence on the State of at least £1000. Whether these Masts were cut on the vacant Lands of the State or private Property does not appear. But it is apprehended to be wrong in two Respects.

1. That Masts of a particular Size have in America ever been deemed not mere Private Property even when growing on private Soil, but a Property in which the publick was interested, suitable Masts being an Article of great national Concern & hence before the Revolution Masts above were seizable if found in private Possession & the Lands having been located under this Reservation it may be reasonably questioned whether the Right is not vested in the State. Mr. Smith, now Loan Officer was formerly Deputy Ranger under Govr Wentworth for the Purpose of procuring the publick Property in Masts in this State.

Secondly. The probable & natural Tendency this Business would have to distress the Inhabitants by raising so distinguished an Object of attention to the Enemy & the Savages their allies which would have made it reasonable to have had the Countenance of publick Authority.

Thirdly. The improper use made of the Priviledge granted Mr. Holker as Agent of the French Marines to export Flour out of this State under the late Embargo Law, it being represented to the Council that Mr. Holker after purchasing Flour has sold it again to Merchants having Vessels bound to the West Indies transferring to them in that Case the Privilege of Exportation for private Emoluments—the Facts as represented being that Mr. Holker sold the Flour at an advanced price of the Market here laying the Exporter under an Obligation to offer it to the government of the French Island, but if either this Defect of Quality or Difference of Price it was not taken, the Merchant then having the Priviledge to dispose of it as he thought proper—Mr. Holker in this Case accompanying the Flour with the Passport of the State obtained under the Indulgence afforded by Law to Flour shipped for the immediate use of his Christian Majesty's Army & Navy.

Fourthly. The Representation given by Genl. Arnold in his Papers of Mr. Holker's Concern in the Sloop Active then in Dispute with their State has been since explained by the Minister to Satisfaction.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly, March 14th, 1781.

A Letter from His Excellency the President in Council, respecting the Convention Prisoners ordered into this State, was, read & likewise an Extract of a Letter from the Board of War, accompanying the same.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. Lowrey, Mr. Moses McClean, & Mr. Smycer, to confer with the supreme executive on the subject matter thereof.

Extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.*

Pres. Reed to Auditors of Bucks Co. 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Persons mentioned in the enclosed List complain that you have refused to settle with them for their Depreciation altho' they have regularly discharged the Service. We have therefore directed them to return to you for settlement which we desire you to make with them unless some extraordinary Reason should intervene which in this Case would have you communicate to us. Col. Proctors Threats & Conduct towards these Men if truly represented to us is very displeasing, & the more as there have been several Complaints of Col. Proctor of the like Kind, & he promised more Care & attention in future.

As the settlement is conducted under your Direction we expect you will not suffer others to interfere in the Matter but exercise your own Judgement, protect all those who come for Settlement from any rough Treatment by their officers, & we direct Rations to issue a convenient Time to all such Soldiers as apply for settlement.

I am Gent.

Your Obed. Hbbe.

Indorsed,

March 15, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 660.

AUDITORS TO PRES. REED, 1781

Yellow Springs March 15th, 1781

Sir,

We have met with nothing extraordinary in our business as yet. The troops were at this place and it would have been convenient to have had them removed to Downings town; we therefore agreed to meet them here, leaving public notice that any who attended there might know where we were gone. There is but one officer here viz. Major Hamilton of the 2nd, who has been a prisoner. The time allowed is much too short to execute the business in, we are at it night and day, There is one Sunday in the time for next post which must be taken for business and the time here made so much the longer. The pay-master Gen. must furnish the advances to the regiments before any thing can be done at Lancaster, there are some Officers of the 2nd, Coming up immediately, if those papers and they from the Aud. General are ready should think it a good conveyance.

We have the Honor to be with respect,

Sir your most obed. Humble Servt.

JNO. NICHOLSON,
JOHN HANNUM,
JNO. BEATON.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr., President of the State of Pennsyleania.

☞ favour of Capt Pearson.

GOV. OF MARYLAND TO PRES. REED, 1781.

In Council, Annᵃ, 16 March, 1781.

Sir,

We are informed by his Excellency Governor Jefferson, that the Convention Troops and those taken at the Cowpens, were at Winchester on the 12ᵗʰ Instant, on their March to Lancaster, agreeable to an Order of Congress of the 3ᵈ Instant. As we apprehend those Troops are by this time at Knowland's Ferry, the point from whence they are to be under the direction of this State, and must proceed in a few Days; We thought it necessary to communicate these circumstances to your Excellency, that measures may be adopted to supply them with Provision as soon as they arrive in Pennsylvania. We are so circumscribed by the Quantities of Provisions furnished the Detachment under the Marquis, that it will be with difficulty we can subsist them to your borders.—The prisoners from this State ordered to York Town, will also proceed in a few Days, about 800 British; the number from Virginia we cannot ascertain.

If the Executive of your State should fix on any other places than those assigned by Congress for their Reception, We request your Excellency to give Us the earliest information thereof, with the necessary communication respecting Supplies.

We have the Honor to be,
with great Consideration,
your Excellency's mo. Obedt H'ble servts,
THOS. S. LEE.

His Ex'y Jos. Reed, Esq.

Auditors to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Newtown, 16th March, 1781.

May it Please your Excellency:

We this moment rec'd yours dated Yesterday, (Inclosing a Petition from a number of men desiring a Settlement) by the Contents of which, we learn that your Excellency and the Honorable Council take it for granted that we have absolutely refused them a Settlement, which we conceive is not clearly the case, the matter being freely canvass'd by Mr Stevenson and us; at which time it appeared that they had been fairly enlisted during the War, the enlistments being signed by themselves, And Acknowledged by the Civil Magistrates; and therefore, the reputation both of the Civil & Military Officers being Pledged, we were rather inclined to View them as belonging to the reg^t, and, by a natural Consequence, in such a Predicament as would amount to nothing less than Desertion; and must beg leave to express our difficulties, and that in this Particular and difficult Case, your Excellency and the Honorable Council would give us positive directions, as we should think it our greatest honour could we do Justice to the Soldier, support the honour of the Civil & Military officer, & meet the approbation of your Excellency. Permit us, Sir, in the mean time, to assure your Excellency, that we are, with the most Profound Respect,

Your Excellency's most Obedient
and very Humble Servants,

ABM. DUBOIS,
WILLIAM GOFORTH.

Directed

His Excellency Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed,

Read March 17, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Committee of Assembly, 1781.

Gentlemen:

Perusing the Minutes of the 2d Inst., we observe the Report to be so stated as to imply a Non Performance of the Promises made to the discontented Soldiers at Trenton, which we apprehend may not only be prejudicial to us personally, but have a bad Effect on the Soldiers and others, who will conceive that Promises were made to the Troops while under Arms, which have not been since complied with. We apprehended that we had clearly explained to the Committee that the Promises made on that Occasion were fully performed, & rather exceeded, in giving Fifty Shillings ℔ Month not mentioned in the Proposals. There was nothing on that Occasion, or at any Time since, engaged to the Officers, as the Report seems to imply. We presume the Promise referred to in the *Report*, was the Cloathing ment[d] in the 5th Article of the recruiting Instructions.

In executing this disagreeable & unthankful Service in the best Manner we could, we only discharged a publick Duty; but we apprehend it should stand fairly stated on our publick Proceedings; and as the Mode of Settlement by peaceable Means, rather than an Attempt of suppressing by Force, has been the Subject of Complaint, it would have given us some Satisfaction if the Committee, after being possessed of all the Documents on that Subject, had express'd their Opinion on this Point to the House.

As we presume the Committee did not, in their Report, intend to convey any unfavourable Ideas of the Proposals & the Execution of them, we rely upon their Candour to rectify it upon the Minutes.

Directed,—To Messrs. Morris, Mifflin, Smith and others, Committee of Assembly.

Indorsed,—March 16, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

Gentlemen,

We acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 13th* Inst., calling upon us to prepare a Guard of 400 militia & to supply Provisions & all other Necessaries for the Convention Troops, observing that tho' the Hon. Congress had directed you to take measures for guarding & supplying these Troops after they arrive at their proposed Quarters that you have no other Means in your Power to comply with this Direction than by calling on the Board for that Guard & those Supplies. We are sorry, Gentlemen, to inform you that in the present exhausted State of our Treasury we have little Prospect of being able to answer your Expectations. We have computed the Monthly Expence of feeding these Troops & Guards at £8,960 Specie ℔ month—the Pay of the Militia & Repair of Barracks will also be very considerable—which added to the neces-

* See page 7.

sary Advances daily making for the Sustenance of the Prisoners already here amounting to 1000—to the recruiting & Support of the Pennsylvania Line daily increasing & wholly within the State, the supply of the Continental Army, the Artificers, Invalids, Mechanicks, & other Dependencies on Congress, will, we are persuaded, be a Burthen insupportable.—And we must acknowledge freely that we think it very unequal that when there are 13 States in Union all the Prisoners should be brought into one. We have allways endeavoured to comply with Requisitions when in our Power, but we do not see the least Probability of answering present Expectations in their full Extent.—Having already observed to our Delegates in Congress the Danger of adding to the Dissaffection of the Inhabitants, especially from the Influence of the German Officers, we need not touch on that Head, tho' of a very delicate & alarming Nature. But in another View the bringing these Troops into the State must affect the general Interest. Should they cross the Susquehanna we are fully persuaded much the greatest Part of them will be in New York in a few months; they will find so many Friends & Opp^rs to convey them thither that unless closely confined no Precautions will be sufficient to prevent this Evil. Our militia in the Country are very badly armed, so that if either thro' Scarcity of Provisions, other Discontent or Impatience of Captivity these Troops should resolve to serve the Enemy & prefer Force to Desertion we apprehend there is Danger of their effecting it. The High Price of Provisions, of Fuel & all other necessaries at Lancaster & York will be an Object also well worthy of Consideration, the Rates of Wood & other necessary articles at Lancaster not differing materially from those of Philad^a.—This will be our last Representation on the Subject which we have thought it our Duty to make—that should any bad Consequences result we may stand fully acquitted, having declared our Opinion that we shall not be able to provide for them with that Plenty or guard them in that Security which the Case requires.

Indorsed,—March 16, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Genl. Wayne, 1781.

Sir,

Mr. Matlack has just now shewn us a Letter from Gen. Irvine to you complaining that seasonable notice not being given of the Law for raising Men by Classes they have hitherto made little or no Progress in Cumberland County. As this Letter & Sentiment may probably be communicated to others we think you will do well to set Gen. Irvine right in this Matter, the Laws in Question with printed Instructions having been sent by Express into every County above two months ago. As this was a particular Duty of the Coun-

cil, & in which we used all possible Despatch, we could wish Gentlemen would not hastily take up Opinions erroneous in themselves & discouraging to Gentlemen in Office.

With Respect to Cloathing we have done every Thing in our Power however deficient our Exertions—with an empty Treasury, little Credit, & a real Scarcity of suitable Cloth—we have 500 Suits in Hand with Blankets & Shoes which will be ready for Delivery in a short Time. As to Camp Equipage, Forges, &c., we apprehend they are properly the Business of the Qr. Master who is doubtless exerting himself as much as the Circumstances of the Country will admit.

When we compare our Supplies with those furnished by other States we apprehend we may justly take some merit for our Exertions for two years past, of which we have many acknowledgements among our Papers. Having the like Disposition we shall persevere in the like Conduct as we are enabled by the Assembly, being on all Occasions anxious to afford the necessary Supplies.

I am Sir,

Your Obed. Hble Ser.,

J. REED.

Directed,

Gen. Wayne.

Indorsed,—March 17, 1781.

Pres. Reed to General Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

Council have thought it necessary that I should communicate the inclosed Letter from Genl. Irwine to the House of Assembly, as containing some useful Information on receiving Grain for Taxes. Impressing from the Inhabitants has ever been found to be attended with so many Inconveniencies that we cannot think of assuming any Power of this Kind as requested by Gen. Irwine, & particularly as there is at present no Law in Force for the Purpose but what requires the Money to be paid down before the Articles are removed.

I am Sir, with due Regard,

Your Obed. Hble Ser.,

J. R.

Indorsed,—March 17, 1781.

To the Hon. Speaker of General Assembly.

Pres. Reed to David Duncan, 1781.

Sir,

Being appointed a Commissioner of Purchases for the County of Westmoreland* you are to proceed in that Duty with all Despatch so as to supply the Garrison at Fort Pitt & such Troops as may be drawn forth under the Authority of Council for the Defence of the Frontiers.—The amount of your yearly Purchases is limited to 816 Barrels Flour, 5000 Gallons Whiskey, 200,000 lbs. Beef or Pork, 1000 Bushels of Corn or 2000 Bushels of Oats, which you will purchase with as much œconomy as possible, & at such Periods as will be most necessary & convenient. Untill next Harvest you are not to exceed the following Prices, viz.: Flour, 30s. ℔ Cᵗ, Wheat ℔ Bushel, 10s., Indian Corn, 5s., Whiskey, 7s. 6 ℔ Gall., but to get them as much lower as possible.

Apply to the late Commissioner & receive from him what Effects he has on Hand agreeable to a Return to be furnished you by Col. Morgan. If Mr. Perry makes any Difficulty of delivering up the Articles or if he has not the Articles the Money which in that Case he must have on Hand you will apply to the two eldest Magistrates of the County for their assistance agreeable to the Letter sent herewith.—Whatever you receive from Mr. Perry on this Occasion is to be reckoned a Part of the yearly Purchases. In Purchase & Transportation we request you to use the utmost Frugality & Care & to send down your Monthly Returns with rigid Punctuality.

Indorsed,—March 17, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Auditors, 1781.

Gentlemen,

From the Tenor of your Letter of the 16 Inst., we find Col. Proctor has impressed you with his Sentiments respecting the discharged Men, which are entirely opposed to our Determination on that Subject repeatedly expressed to him. Having considered the Circumstances of these Discharges, we conceived it best for the publick Interest to yield the Point rather than incur the Imputation of breaking Faith, & more especially as we are fully of Opinion that had due Diligence been used, Col. Proctor might have had his inlistments at Trenton, & prevented the Men being discharged by the Commissioners.

As you request our positive Directions, we give them to you to settle with the discharged Men on the same Principles you have settled with others—& that the Men be protected from Ill Treatment, & furnished with reasonable Provisions.

I am, Gent., Your Obed. H'bble Serv.,

J. REED.

Directed,—To Abraham Dubois and William Goforth, Esqs, &c., Bucks County.

Indorsed,—March 17, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 656.

Pres. Reed to Col. Lochry, 1781.

March 17th, 1781.

Col. Lochry:

Sir,

The Council having taken into Consideration the State of your County, & apprehensive that the Aid of Militia will be too slow & tedious, have directed you to raise a Corps of 50 Volunteers to serve for 4 Months, agreeable to the inclosed Resolve. We hope the ranging Company voted for the War, will be raised early in the Summer, & by that Means a standing Defence provided. You will dispose these Troops so as to give the most effectual Aid; & Mr Duncan, the new appointed Commissioner, will take proper Steps for their Supply.

The Difficulty of procuring proper Accounts of the Expenditure of Money in the Frontier Counties, & the little Benefit hitherto derived from Companies raised, & which is by some ascribed to Inattention & Partiality, have proved very discouraging—We hope you will this Summer put your Affairs in such a Train, as that similar Complaints may not be made—& we particularly request you to send down, without Delay, a fair & regular Accoount of all Monies expended by you in the publick Service. It is with much Concern we observe, as we have formerly done, that when Troops are raised for your Protection, they are permitted to loiter away their Time at the Taverns, or straggling about the Country; & in some Instances, we fear there has been great Negligence in the Officers to whose Command they were intrusted. The interiour Counties have so long borne this Expence, that they are become impatient under it; & you cannot serve your Country more essentially, or do yourself more Credit, than by carefully attending to the expenditures of publick Money, & causing those who are in publick Service to perform it with Industry & Fidelity.

I am, Sir, Your Obed. H'ble Serv.,

J. R.

Pres. Reed to Auditors of York County, 1781.

Gentlemen:

Apprehending from what has happened on the other Routes of the Commissioners, that you may not be acquainted with the Sense of Congress & the Council with Respect to the discharged Men, we think proper to inform you, that it has been deemed best for the public Interests, to overlook the Injustice done the publick by those who have sworn off, rather than incur the Imputation of breaking the Promises made them at Trenton—& retain by Force what may, with good Management, in many Instances, be gained by easier

Methods—This will be facilitated by the Grant of Assembly of nine Pounds Gratuity to those who have continued during the War; so that the State will gain nothing by the Distinction of being retained or re-inlisted.

You will therefore settle with the discharged Men on the same Principles as with others, & without troubling yourself with scrutinising the former Inlistments, from which we fear, under our present Circumstances, little Benefit can be derived.

I am Gent., Your Obed. Hbb. Serv.

Indorsed,
March 19, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The mixed mode of supplying Cloathing to our Line by the Continent & State, appears to us liable to mutual Inconveniences & some Abuses, which may be in some Degree prevented by Communications of our respective Supplies of this Article. We therefore request you will direct the Clothier General to furnish us with a Return of what has been issued from Jan. 1780 to this Time, & we will direct our Clothier to do the same, to be laid before you, & continue it in future so as to stand mutually informed of each others Proceedings.

I am Gent.

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.,

J. R.

March 19, 1781.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, 20th March, 1781.

Sir,

The board do themselves the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday,* and are happy to find your Ideas on the subject of Cloathing exactly coincides with our own, and have given the necessary orders for making out the returns agreeable to your Excellency's request.

We have the honor to be

your Excellencys most

obedt Hum. Servants,

EZEK. CORNELL.

Directed,
His Excellency President Reed.

* See above.

Major J. R. Cummings to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I think proper to inform your Excellency that a certain Mr. Bamper,* formerly Quarter Master in Coll. Moylans Horse, passed through Morris Town yesterday, and from many very strong Circumstances have Reason to believe he is a Messenger from N. York to Arnold, there is in Company with him a Person who calls himself Captn Freeland—Bamper is a Man about five feet ten Inches high, full faced, large blue Eyes, wairs a short scarlet Coat. I have wrote to Coll. Barber, who is under the Command of the Marquis Le Fayette, concerning him.

I am with Respect,

your Excellency's

most Obd^t Hbl^e Serv.,

J. R. CUMMINGS, Major,

Com^d 1st R., Jersey.

Directed,

Publick Service.

His Excellency Joseph Reed, President of the State of Pensylvania.

Indorsed—March 20, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Thomas Scott, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I received your Favour of the 8th October last but a few Days ago. You will see by our publick Message to the House that we have not forgot the important Point you dwell so much upon. I have also in private Conversation endeavoured to impress it on the Minds of the Members, but the Truth is that the People of your own Country are not agreed on it, which with the great Load of Business arising in our great Continental Concerns has I believe kept the House from going into it—Some of the Members of the House think that there is more probability of gaining military Assistance from the People while laying in one County than after a Division of the County.

However that nothing may be wanting on our Part we have appointed Commissioners to run the Line, viz., John Lukens & Arch^d McClean, Esqr, or in Case of the Incapacity of either, Alex^r McClean, Esqr, of your County—to proceed to Business on the 10th May, if the State of Virginia approves of that Time—We hope these

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 663.

Measures will give a Temporary Satisfaction, & be assured nothing will be omitted by us to establish the Peace of the Country & the Interest of the State.—I have also received your Letter by Mr. Marshall & forwarded it to the House of Assembly.

Since I began this Letter I find a Bill has been brought into the House for setting off on the County—but I confess I was apprehensive it would not pass this Session untill within this Day or two, But I now hope it will.

We have done every Thing which the low State of our Treasury will enable us to do for your Relief from the Indians, but the heavy Expences occasioned by the Disturbances of our Troops, Supply of the Army, &c., have brought on us Embarrassments of which you can have no Idea from what you ever saw while among us.

I have not received your Letter by Mr. Jones, but shall forward you the Proceedings of Assembly both the last & present Sessions by him—Our publick Affairs in every other particular but Money wear a good Appearance—The English have gone to War with Holland principally on our Account—but as Mr. Smith the Bearer from his Situation in Congress can give you good Information on all these Points I need not detain you longer.

I am with much Regard, dear sir,

your real Friend & Obed. Hble. Ser.

Indorsed,

March 20, 1781.

PRES. OF CONGRESS TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Circular.

Philadelphia, March 21, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed, a Proclamation of the 20th Instant, earnestly recommending that Thursday the third Day of May next may be observed as a Day of Humiliation, Fasting, & Prayer by all the United States.*

I have the Honor to be,

with every Sentiment of Esteem & regard,

your Excellency's most obedient servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

His Excellency President Reed.

* See the proclamation of Congress and the States in Col. Rec., Vol. XII., pages, 671. 699,

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania In General Assembly,

Wednesday, March 21st, 1781.

The message* from His Excellency the President & Council of this day was, on motion and by special order, read the second time.

Resolved, that it be referred to a Committee of three; and that they be directed to request a conference with council thereupon The Gentlemen appointed were Mr. R. Morris, Mr. Delany, & Mr. Wynkoop,

Extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.

The Gentlemen of the Committee present their Compliments to His Excellency the President in Council, and request him to fix the time for the above conference.

Thursday.

Directed,

His Excellency Jos. Reed, Esq., President, &c.,

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania In General Assembly.

Wednesday, 21st March, 1781.

Resolved, that Mr. Daniel Hiester, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Duncan be a Committee to obtain from the Supreme Executive Council the accounts, or Copies of the accounts of the Lieutenants of the City and several Counties of this State, which have been rendered to them agreeable to Law, and likewise a list of the names of such Lieutenants, if any, who have neglected to furnish the said Council with the accounts of all money received and expended by them respectively, by virtue of the acts for the Regulation of the militia of this State.†

Extract from the Minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., pages. 668. 671.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., pages, 672, 677.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War office, March 21st, 1781.

Sir,

The Board wish to have the honor of a conferrence with the Council on business of a publick nature and propose to wait on them at one o'clock this afternoon if agreeable.

We have the honor to be,
with sentiments of respect and esteem,
your Excellency's most obed Hum. Servants,

EZEK. CORNELL.
By order.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr., President of the state of Pensylvania.
War office.

Genl. Clark to Pres. Reed, 1781.

March 23d, 1781.

D. Sir,

Though unacquainted I take the liberty of writing to your Excellency on a subject I hope will Consern you so much as to Honour my proposition. I make no doubt but that you are fully acquainted with the design of the Enterprise. I am order'd to Com^d of the greatest consequence to the Frontiers of Pensylvania & Virginia, if our Resources should not be such as to Inable us to Remain in the Indian Country during the fair season I am in hopes they will be sufficient to Visit the Shawonees, Delawares & Sandusky Town—defeating the Enemy and laying those Cuntrees waste, would give great Ease to the Frontiers of both States whom I think equally Interested But Sir nothing great can be expected without the assistance of numbers of men from the Country on this side of the Lawrell Hill many living within the boundary of Pensylvania are willing to go on the Expedition, many more would if it was not for a timid simple disposition, fearing it would disoblige y^r Excellency & Councill, at least they make use of such arguments as an Excuse others alternately shifting from one state to the other to screen themselves from any Military duty that might be Required of them but as I am Confident from the nature of the intended Expedition, you would wish to give it every aid in your power, I hope sir that you will inform the Inhabitants on this side of the M^t that such is your sentiments. They are fully able to spare five hund^d men I dont think they could be better imploy'd to the advantage of themselves or Country I should have Selicited ye govenor of Virg^a to have made

this Request of you but the want of time for it to go through that Channel, and Confident of its meeting with your approbation Induced me to do it myself. I hope Sr that you will Honour me with an amediate answer Pr Express as it is of the greatest Consequence to us & that the fate of the Indians at present appears to depend on the Resolutions you may take.

With Esteem I b eg leave to subscribe myself yr very Ob. Servt,

G. CLARK, Brigr G.

Directed,

To His Excellency the Governor of Pensylvania.

J. R. Cumming to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Chatham, March 23d, 1781,

Sir,

I this Morning received a Letter from Mr. Bamper who informs me he was taken up in Consequence of my Letter—The informations which I received and which occasioned my writing your Excellency are that Mr. Bamper told to almost every Gentleman in Morris different accounts of his journey as I was informed by Mr. Viner, Vanzendt and others.—Mr. Vanzendt likewise informed me that Mr. Bamper was at Cacaucua a place near Paulus Hook a few Days before his Departure.

Mr. Freeland his Companion is a man of a disaffected Character an inhabitant of Barbadoes Neck in the County of Bergen.

I am with respect

your Excellency's obedt Servt

J. R. CUMMING.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr.

Board of War to Col. James Wood, 1781.

War Office, March 24th, 1781.

Sir,

The very considerable desertions which have prevailed among the Convention Prisoners and the repeated neglects on the part of the British Generals, to pay for their support, have long been matters of serious consideration and furnish undeniable proof of a System, the Evils attended on which, require an immediate remedy.

You are therefore hereby directed, to cause the non-commissioned

*See page 20, also Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 668.

Officers and Soldiers of the British Convention Troops, to be forthwith closely confined & effectually guarded so as to prevent them from escaping to the Enemy. It is hoped that none of their Officers will attempt to hold any correspondence with the Enemy or take or connive at any steps to promote the escape of the Non-commisioned Officers or privates. But should such Conduct be discovered, the Officer or Officers so demeaning him or themselves, are to be deemed and treated as having broken their paroles. Untill you are informed of paym^t being made for provisions and transport heretofore furnished these prisoners, as stipulated in Article 5th of the Convention, you will issue no more or other provisions to these than are usually issued to prisoners of war.

The Officers of the British are to be put on their parole and sent to Simsbury in Connecticut, where they can be more conveniently quartered than at present. The Non-commissioned Officers and privates, are to remain at Frederick Town in Maryland, and be closely confined. But if there are any other places of security in that State wherein any part of them may be safely kept, you have liberty to seperate them into such Detachments for this purpose as you shall think proper. If the Governor and Council of the State of Maryland (with whom you will consult) should deem any other place or places proper for the confinement of the prisoners within that state, you will accommodate your orders to their views and directions.

The German Non-commissioned Officers and privates are to remain near the Town of Winchester in Virginia, and be confined to the Barracks built there by order of the State of Virginia, and their Officers are to be on parole within the County of Frederick in that State, and to be limited to a District, not exceeding ten Miles in Circumference.

No transportations at the expence of the United States is to be hereafter allowed these Troops, and you will take care to limit the number of waggons and Horses to be hired by them for the purpose of transporting themselves or their Baggage, and also the number of Horses to be kept by the Officers, and the prices to be by them given, for forage for their Horses or provisions for themselves. It has been alledged that the best Horses in the Country have been purchased by the Officers, and on their being exchanged, have been carried in to the Enemy in considerable numbers—This practice has a dangerous tendency, and you will take every measure in your power to discountenance & prevent it.

We rely on your discretion for any thing not perticularly directed, and make no doubt that you will in concurrence with the Executives of the States of Virginia, and Maryland (to whom we shall write on the subject) take the most effectual measures for the Superintendance and safe keeping of the prisoners committed to your care, you will also assemble all the Cowpen and other unconditional prisoners of war, in these two States at some convenient places and send

them under proper Guards to Lancaster in Pensylvania, where they will be received by a guard of Militia of that state. It is better for the Virginia Guard to go the whole way, for reasons obvious to you.

We are Sir,
with much esteem & regard
your most Obed. Hble. Servt,

Directed,
To Colonel James Wood, Superintending the Convention prisoners.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, March 26, 1781.

Sir,
Since the Resolution of Congress relative to the removal of the Convention Troops they have been pleased to refer the matter to this Board to take Order and we have given the enclosed Instructions to Col. Wood* who has the Superintendance of those Troops and he is gone forward to put these Orders in Execution which are expressive of the sense of Congress on the subject. The Instructions will explain themselves and the present Circumstances of Affairs make the measures therein directed absolutely necessary—We therefore hope for the Concurrence and assistance of your Excellency and the Honourable Council in carrying them into effect.

We have the Honour to be
with the highest respect
your very obedt servt,
RICHARD PETERS,
By Order.

Directed,
To His Excellency President Reed.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

March 26, 1781.

Gentlemen,
The great Distress of the Frontiers for Rifles induces us to request you to assist us with those you have at Carlisle, supposed about 90. As they are now generally disused in the Continental Army we hope it will not be inconvenient, & we will either take them to be return'd or discounted out of the 300 Muskets furnished last Fall to the Southern Army at the Desire of Members of Congress & your hont Board.

I am, Gent.

* The foregoing are the instructions to Col. James Wood referred to.

Pres. Reed to Gen. St. Clair, 1781.

March 26, 1781.

Sir,

It has been allways our Wish that all Applications respecting Officers in the Line which respect Promotions or Appointments & may have any general Effect should come thro the Hands of the Commanding Officer of the Line or some other general Officer in his Absence—We therefore remit these Papers to you, observing that by a subsisting Resolve of Congress no new Appointments can take Place without Gen. Washingtons Recommendation, & that as our Complement of Men is very defective we apprehend it will not be pleasing to the Legislature or the People to increase Appointments but for some special Purpose or in an extraordinary Case untill the Regiments approach nearer their Quota.

You will please to signify to us your Opinion & also satisfy Col. Procter, to whom the Expectants will probably look for an Answer.

I am, sir, with much Respect,

your Obed. Hbbl. Ser.

Pres. Reed to Rev. Peter Miller, 1781.

March 26, 1781.

My good Friend,

I received your Favour of the 15th Inst. [Ult.*] respecting John Rein, who will probably be treated with suitable Tenderness if he entitles himself to it by suitable Conduct. But he must not treat with Authority at Arms length. If he is well advised he will surrender himself, submit to the Laws of the Country, & then he will have a juster Pretension to its Favour. Your Recommendation be assured will have its due Weight in his Behalf & particularly so with me.—I am Sir, with many Thanks for your kind Wishes, which I as sincerely return,

Sir, your Obed. Hbbl. Ser.,

J. R.

Directed,

Rev. Mr. Peter Miller, Ephrata.

* See Vol. VIII., page 606, and Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 674.

Pres. Reed to Col. Lochry, Lieut. of Westmoreland, 1781.

Sir,

We have put the Troops raised and to be raised for the Defence of Westmoreland County under your Direction with Respect to their Station, and it is the anxious Wish of Council that you would do it so as to afford the greatest possible Protection. It is not pleasant tho' it seems necessary for us to observe that the permitting the Troops to stay about Hannahs Town for a considerable Time—& then the little Benefit derived from them has been a Matter of some Concern, & that we hope you will use your Influence & Authority to make them more Beneficial in future. Should any offensive Operations take Place, & Col. Broadhead require the Troops, Council would chuse they should be at his Disposal, but not in any other Case—You will also supply them with Arms as they are recruited.

I am Sir,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,

March 26th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Lieut. Cummins, 1781.

Sir,

You are desired to march the men you have recruited into Westmoreland County where Captain Stokely will probably meet you. Mr. Duncan the Commissioner will supply the Troops & the Company will be directed in its station by the County Lieutenant whose Orders in that particular are to be obeyed.

I am Sir

Your Obed. Hble. Ser.

Indorsed,

March 26, 1781.

AUDITORS OF BUCKS COUNTY TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Newtown, 26th March, 1781.

May it please your Excellency,

On the 24th we received your favour of the 23d, with respect to which we would beg leave with the greatest deferance to observe on your first proposition that you wrote us that by fixing a time for the Auditors attendance, you expected and intended a general Settlement, and not to be open'd again but in extraordinary Cases. That we understood this to be the meaning of the Legislature and the Instructions of Council, and in Conformity thereto sent for one hundred more Certificates which appears to have given Rise to the request of Council to us to report the Number Settled with, With which we have most Chearfully complyed from the consideration of the right your Excellency has to every Information as also from the consideration (if we may be admitted the Expression) of the wisdom of the Measure itself as Calculated to prevent frauds. As to those who were wanting Certificates we would beg leave to observe that they Consist of the discharged men those on Command at Fort Pitt, (whose Certificates when compleated we shall take the Liberty to return to Council to be deliver'd to them on their return) which we expected would amount to near a hundred, and as we thought it might rather be a saving that a few Blank Certificates should be left than to be Oblidg'd to employ another Rider and therefore sent for the above number. It appears by your Excellencys letter that Council meant to send us 25 Certificates, but we have to acknowledge the receipt of 25 Sheets, containing 100 Certificates, for which we shall account with the greatest Punctuality. Permit us to say that altho we well remember that to err is human, yet we flatter ourselves that not a single Person will get a Certificate but those Intitled. As to any Expence that may Occur in consequence of Auditing the accounts it would Effect us very sensibly. We beg leave to asure your Excellency that altho we heartily Concur in the measure of setling with the troops because it was founded in Wisdom and honesty, yet we hope your honorable board will believe us when we assure you that our pay was the least inducement to us at this season of the year to leave our Domestic affairs. We hope verry soon to close the business of the Post and shall think ourselves additionally happy should we finally meet your Excellencys approbation, and beg leave in the mean time to Subscribe Ourselves with the utmost Respect.

your Excellencys most Obedient & verry Humble Servants,

AB^m DUBOIS.

WILLIAM GOFORTH.*

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pensylvania.

See pages 18, 17.

Return of the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Privates of Artillery, settled with at Newtown,

March 24th, 1781.

Rank.	Names.	—
Colonel	Thomas Procter,	1
Captain	Francis Procter, junr.,	2
Captain	Charles Turnbull,	3
Captain	Patrick Duffey,	4
Captain	John Bryce,	5
Surgeon	Reading Beatty,	6
Lieut.	Samuel Story,	7
Captain	Worsley Emes,	8
Capt. Lieut.	John Stricker,	9
Capt. Lieut.	Jesse Crosley,	10
Capt. Lieut.	Matthew Maguire,	11
Surgeon	William Adams,	12
Major	James Parr, late of the seventh Regiment,	13
Serjeant	John Marn. Lodwick,	14
Serjeant	Francis Donnelly,	15
Serjeant	Joseph Morgan,	16
Serjeant	Jonathan Sturgis,	17
Serjeant	James Bennett,	18
Serjeant	John Stafford,	19
Serjeant	James Patterson,	20
Serjeant	John Stuart,	21
Musician	William Moore,	22
do.	Michael Thustin,	23
do.	Thomas Minckle,	24
do.	Samuel Hockkugol,	25
Serjeant	Benjamin Whitlow,	26
Corporal	Frederick Bierly,	27
Serjeant	Daniel Forbes,	28
Dm. Major	William Norton,	29
Matross	William Mayberry,	30
Serjeant	William Stuart,	31
Matross	Robert McNeal,	32
Gunner	Daniel Fennell,	33
Serjeant	Peter Burchart,	34
Matross	William Crowley,	35
do.	Henry Conckle,	36
Drummer	Thomas Connelly,	37
Bombardr.	Martin Miller,	38
Corporal	William Rushworm,	39
Matross	James Gill,	40
do.	John Stortz,	41
Bombar.	James Toy,	42
Serjeant	Daniel North,	43
Matross	Wm. McMahon,	44
do.	Thomas Loage,	45
do.	George Hutchinson,	46
do.	John Malony, senr.,	47
Musician	Anthony Hoover,	48
Gunner	Christian Hubbert,	49
Corporal	Casper Shane,	50
Matross	Thomas M. Cook,	51
Serjeant	Philip Witzell,	52
Matross	William Clare,	53
Musician	William Shippen,	54
Bombar.	Robert Pauper,	55
Matross	Daniel McCoy,	56
Corporal	William Hannon,	57
Matross	George Camp,	58
do.	Henry Love,	59
do.	Fred'k Winckler,	60
Bombard.	William Emberson,	61
do.	Reynard Smick,	62
Matross	Richard Sweetman,	63
do.	Henry Guiter,	64
do.	Matthias Camp,	65
do.	John Jacobs,	66
do.	William Talbot,	67
Matross	John Pine,	68
Corporal	Robert Davidson,	69
Bombar.	Patrick Smith,	70
Matross	Edward Callahan,	71
do.	Edward Tool,	72
do.	William Ford,	73
do.	John Singleton,	74
do.	John Wilks,	75
do.	Fred'k Redhair,	76
do.	Patrick Diver,	77
do.	Isaac Scivey,	78
do.	John Taplin,	79
do.	Francis Hawkins,	80
do.	William Witherly,	81
Drum'r.	Casper Ebener,	82
Matross	John Davis,	83
do.	Thomas Chilcut,	84
do.	John Miller,	85
Serjt.	Richard Evitt,	86
Serjt.	Philip Lower,	87
Matross	William McMinn,	88
Drumm.	George Chace,	89
Matross	Howard Knight,	90
Drumm.	George Kellar,	91
do.	William Campbell,	92
Lt. Colo.	Francis Murray, late of the 13th Regiment,	93
Drum.	Daniel Cross,	94
do.	Peter Green,	95
do.	Robert Patterson.	96

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, March 26, 1781.

Sir,

We have the Honour to enclose agreeable to the Request of Council* an order for Ninety Rifles which are returned to us as out of order nor have we the Means of putting them in a condition fit for the Service, This we hope will be done by the state & credit given to us for the Rifles as they now are, Had we any in Repair they should be delivered.

We have the Honour to be,

With great respect & Esteem your obed. Servt.

RICHARD PETERS

By Order.

His Excellency President Reed.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781

War office, 26th March, 1781.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to inclose to your Excellency a Coppy of the Cloather Generals return of the Cloathing delivered the Pensylvania Line, It is not compleat but is the best that can be made at present,

I have honor to be,

your Excellencys most obedt. Hum. Servant.

EZEK. CORNELL.

Directed,

His Excellency Jos. Reed, Esqr., President of the state Pensylvania.

War office.

Mons. Holker to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, ye 26th March, 1781.

Sir,

In consequence of your letter of ye 14th,† I have with the greatest pleasure transmitted to Dr Phile naval officer of this port, so soon as I could collect the necessary materials, a return of ye cargoes of his Majesty's Store Ships the Liverpool, Mariefrancoise & L'Interessant. Your Excellency & the hon^ble the Supreme Executive Council, will

* See page. 26.

† See page 9.

please to observe that it is not drawn, with that precision and accuracy, which Mr Etheard could alone have given it, & which it was his indispensable duty to have done, when I wrote him on ye 8th of September* to this purpose.

But before I enter further on this subject, I must beg leave to observe to you Sir, that it appears somewhat extraordinary, you should express yourself in the following words in your letter of ye 14th March :† you say that you had intimated to his Excellency the Chevr de Laluzerne, some Causes of uneasiness, in order that he might communicate them to the Chevr de Fernay, & that Mr Etheart & myself being both together at Rhode island, we might there explain those which related to the three vessels which arrived last summer: I beg leave to repeat that it was somewhat extraordinary, because Mr Etheart being sent to Philadelphia, on an express object of business, by the Governmont of Martinico, was not accountable to the Commander of the Naval forces of his most Christian Majesty in America, in any point that relates to that business: with respect to myself, the Minister of the Royal Marine in France, can alone pronounce definitively respecting my conduct, in any point which relates to ye functions of my late office, as consul for the State of Pensilvania, & at present, as consul general of the Midle district: if therefore any cause of complaint had arisen against Mr Etheard, & Your Excellency and the Supreme Executive Council should have thought proper, to have transmitted a remonstrance to the Minister in France, through me, it being my duty to make report of ye conduct of all naval officers in the ports of my district, so as the necessary measures may be taken in consequence thereof, I should have immediately conformed to your desire. If the complaints were against myself, the remonstrance might have been transmitted through the hands of his Excellency the Chevr DelaLuzerne, in the manner he proposed it to you Sir, when you intimated to him the causes of uneasiness during my absence from Philadelphia.

Having said that Mr Etheard should have made a return of his cargoes when they were called for, it behoves me to add that if your Excellency & Council, should be of opinion, that any material injury has resulted from this neglect of Mr Etheart, or that it should be necessary to establish a precedent, tho I have constantly acknowledged it to be duty of all captains trading in any of the ports of America, & that all other Captain's but of Mr Etheart's division, have made regular returns at the naval office of their cargoes, I make bold to say, that either the Minister Plenipotentiary will or I shall most readily lay before the Minister of the Royal marine, such memorial as your Excellancy will please to transmit me on this occasion.

In order to be more particular as to this point, & to give every usefull information, I have the honor of transmitting to your Ex-

* See Vol. VIII., page 546. † page 9.

cellency & the Supreme Executive Council, copies of my first letter on this Subject to yourself, another to Dr Phile, & two others of ye 8th & 9th 7bers* to M. Etheart, which will prove that this Gentleman can plead no Excuse: they will demonstrate at the same time, that I did every possible thing in my power to force Mr Etheart to his duty, & to give the fullest satisfaction: in this opinion I am not singular for his Excellency the Chevr De la Luzerne, having perused the aforesaid papers & your letters, writes thus to me in his of ye 15th, "Il' me parait qu'on nepeut en aucune maniere, vous imputer cette "commission; que vous avés fait dans le tems, tout ce qui etait en "vôtre pouvoir pour le prevenir, et j'Espere que le President sera "satisfait des Eclaircissements que vous lui communiquerès."

I hope, Sir, that what has preceded will serve as an answer to ye first article of ye memorandum of particulars inclosed in the letters with which you honor'd me on the 13th currant to which I should have returned an immediate answer, had I not been obliged to make an Excursion to Lancaster, from whence I am but lately returned; it appears only necessary for me to add, that I cannot discover on what ground your Excellency makes use of the following words "it "is presumed that Mr Holker should have done the business himself "or used effectual measures to have had it done by Captain Etheart." I have said that Mr Etheart was charged with particular business by the Government of Martinico, to whom alone he deemed himself accountable, he bore a commission as Lieutenant of the Royal navy, I therefore thought I could not with propriety, exert those Powers which are entrusted to me, with respect to the Captains, officers & Crews of all other vessels whatever, in the case of Mr Etheart I conceived I had nothing more to do, than to give him the necessary warning so as he might not plead his ignorance of the Custom & usages of the port: all other effectual measures in this instance, are not I apprehend at present, within the reach of my office.

I hope by the above state of ye matter, I shall have removed all possible Cause of uneasiness or Complaint respecting myself, & that your Excellency & council, on mature Consideration of all Circumstances, will approve my conduct in Every particular thereof.

I now Come to the fourth & last point of the memorandum of Particulars which runs thus.

"The representatiôn given by General Arnold in his papers, of "M. Holker's concern in the Sloop Active, then in dispute with this "State, has been since explained by the Minister to Satisfaction."†

I am indeed happy to find, that this matter has been Explained to Satisfaction by the Minister: but I cannot help expressing some surprise, that any uneasiness could have arisen on this Subject so as to occasion an intimation thereof to the Minister: these very papers

* See Vol. VIII., pages 546–548.

† These two words are added in another hand, and apparently the same as the note hereafter referred to.

of General Arnold, if genuine or compleat, must demonstrate beyond all possible doubt, that I refused having any concern in the Sloop Active; at first because I did not approve the principles of General Arnold's transaction with the recaptors or pretended recaptors of the Sloop active. Diffident of my own opinion I did not accede to take any concern, but on the Judgement of two persons, of undoubted worth & honor, who deemed I might do it, on the strictest principles of delicacy; my consent was given at seven o'clock in the Evening. At nine the same Evening, I wrote a note to General Arnold telling him I could not accept of his propositions, because I had discovered from another friend, that a concern in the Sloop Active, might possibly involve me into difficulties with the State, on account of a difference then subsisting between him & the Supreme Executive Council, of which I had not been apprised, having but lately returned from Boston: this friend observed, that some day or other if such a transaction Came to light, It might be construed through various motives to my disadvantage, though it would only take place, in order to recover a considerable Loan of continental money, which I had made to that unfortunate man, in his hour of distress, then deeming him a usefull & very deserving servant of the Congress of the United States: I therefore refused all concern whatever in the Sloop Active, least I might involve or derogate from my public character. These facts I presume, are proved by the papers in possession of Council, & if they are not compleat, I can administer the necessary documents from General Arnold's letters to me, who had the greatest interest to Establish my concern in the Sloop Active, if he could have prevailed on me to accept of it.

With respect to ye third article, I hope the Minister has also Explained the matter to Satisfaction, it was with his knowledge, by his consent, & by his positive directions, that I have always disposed of the flour belonging to ye royal Marine: I should not do sufficient justice to ye motives of his conduct, was I to attempt to mention, much less to explain or Elucidate them: to his Excellency therefore I must beg leave to refer all questions on this subject, persuaded that it will give all possible Satisfaction, If I assert, that I have only followed his instructions by so doing.

The second article of ye memorandum of particulars of Masts for the use of the royal navy, remains unexplained.

All that I have to say on this subject, will be reduced to a few words. I have no sort of knowledge whether they do or do not belong to the State or individuals, all that I can possibly know, is that I never had any concern directly or indirectly, in the purchase or property of a single mast & sparr, considered as such, nor in any contract whatever: this I take the liberty of observing to your Excellency, least it might be thought, which I am informed has been the case, that I was interested in the contract for which I claimed by application in person, your protection & of the Honble the Coun-

eil, my solicitations were repeated by letter of ye twenty second* of September, as per coppy herewith annexed, & His Excellency the Chevalier de Laluzerne, with the Continental board of admiralty, applied Jointly with my self & James Wilson Esqre,† for protection of a militia Guard for the masts cutters, because they were so scarce, that there did not exist within our reach, a single one of sufficient dimension for any of the Continental Frigates, or those of his Most Christian Majesty, on the waters of the Delaware or the Cheseapeak, I thought of the Indians at the time, & it was for that reason, that I applied for protection, I deem'd it the more easy to obtain, because the Swamps of masts on the Schuylkill, if I am rightly informed, lay 60 or 80 miles, within the range of the Militia Scouts Establish'd to guard the frontiers against the Savages: I Expected protection for the mast cutters, because these are absolutely necessary, to refit his Majesty's Ships now on the Coast of America for the sole purpose of its deffence, because it was a matter of public Concern, to procure them at any rate, this business was directly relative to my office, & I could no more have immagined, that I should have been accused of bringing down savages, by endeavouring to determine the subjects of Pensilvania to procure masts, who are acconntable to their Government for their actions, than of bringing the British army, from New York to Philadelphia, or Baltimore, by directing contracts to be made for provisions for the royal navy, with other subjects of these two States. If however Savages have been induced to make an attack on this account, I must beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that I shall never deem myself responsible for the deeds of those persons who shall offer to deliver me any, in any part of the United States, which is simply the Case in the present instance. I hope therefore, I shall likewise deserve your approbation on this occasion, being persuaded that my conduct, has given Satisfaction to the Minister Plenipotentiary here, & that the Commanders of his Majesty's Ships would receive much more, if I had it in my power, to inform them, that I had in my possession such Sparrs & masts, as would suit their present or future purposes.

I shall conclude by observing to your Excellency, that I suppose all grounds of misunderstanding, uneasiness or complaint, are comprehended in the above mentioned memorandum of particulars, which was inclosed in your letter of ye 13th,‡ if any should remain omitted or forgot, I entreat you & the Supreme Executive Council to lett me know them, so as I may also have an opportunity of Explaining my

* The following words appears to be a marginal note written in a different hand, and probably are remarks made on reading the letter.

"Note Bene. At these different periods, when application was made for a protection, it was never mentioned to the Consul that masts for a Navy belonged to the State, or that the cutting of masts could induce alone an Incursion from the Indians."

† See Vol. VIII., pages 541, 542.

‡ See page 9.

conduct to their entire satisfaction, it being my highest ambition, to deserve that approbation, to which I should deem every faithfull & upright officer of his most Christian Majesty entitled from each of the Confederated States of America.

I remain with due Respect
Sir, Your most obedient &
very humble Servant,
HOLKER.

Directed,
His Excelleney Joseph Reed, Esqr, Pres^t of the State of Pensilvania, & ye Supreme Executive Council.

Gen. St. Clair to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, and the honorable the Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen:

The Assembly having published for Consideration a Bill for dividing the County of Westmoreland, and erecting Part of it into a new County, which will probably pass into a Law, and proper Persons will be wanted for the necessary Offices; I beg leave to recommend to your Notice for the Office of Prothonotary, Mr Michael Hoofnagle, a young Gentleman now in the Practice of the Law in Westmoreland, and who I can recommend as a Man of Probity, and very capable of filling it with Propriety. He served a regular apprenticeship to Mr Shippen, of Lancaster, and came to me very strongly recommended by him; and during several Years that he lived with me as a Clerk, gave not only Satisfaction to me, but very generally to every Body who had Business at the Office. I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen, your most obedient
and very humble Servant,
A^r St CLAIR.

Philad^a, March 26th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Auditors of Bucks County, 1781.

Gentlemen:

Your Favour of the 26th* Inst. has been received. We observe with Concern, that Mr Stevenson has omitted a particular Direction to him, viz., to refer the Officers who had been Prisoners to a Settlement in this City, where an Account could be procured of the Monies advanced them in Captivity, on which no Depreciation is chargeable, as it was in Specie. I now send you the Names of those in Proctor's Regiment who have drawn Monies, & the Sums; on which it is the Request of Council, that you would call on these Gentlemen, & have

* See page 29.

a Settlement adapted to the real State of the Accounts, which, as Gentlemen of Honour & Character, they will not hesitate to do, unless these Sums have been deducted in the Settlement already made, —We are still at some Loss to account for the Numbers applying; nor do we perfectly understand what is meant by those on Command at Fort Pitt, as we perceive no Certificate is given to any Person who does not attend in Person for Settlement. You will please to stop untill we are informed in the Matter, as we apprehend some Mistake has happened.

I am, Gentlemen, with due Esteem,—

	Specie.
Shubart Armitage,	30 Dollars.
William Ferguson,	479, 88 parts of a Dollar.
William Martin,	253, 18 parts.
James Smith,	138, 48 pts.
Charles Turnbull,	608, 58 parts.

1781, March 27.

To Messrs. Abraham Dubois and Wm. Goforth, Esqs., Auditors Bucks County.

Pres. Reed to Gov. Lee, of Md., 1781.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your Excell^y Favour of the 16th Inst.* —Congress did enter into the Resolution of the 3^d Inst., as recited in yours; but on Consideration of the probable Direction of the Prisoners, of the great Difference of the Price in this State, & the distant Counties of Maryland & Virginia in the Articles of Provisions & Fuel, & also paying a just Attention to the Burthens of this State now supplying Congress & all its Dependencies; the Artificers & Manufacturers for the publick—the Pennsylvania Line & the Prisoners of War, both Land & naval, now in the State, in the whole amounting to 4000 Men—I say upon Consideration of these Points, they were induced to recommit the Business, & direct the Board of War to make a new Apportionment, by which all the unconditional Prisoners, supposed to amount to 1000, are to be brought into this State, & the other disposed in Maryland & Virginia, agreeable to a Plan which will probably reach your Excellency before this. We should have been happy if our Circumstances & sound Policy would have admitted our receiving these Prisoners, as we are informed their Residence is not grateful to the Authority of your State—but we have authentick Accounts that Gen. Philips has a Corps now actually formed out of the Convention Prisoners, amounting to 900 Men; & we are well persuaded they would soon be greatly increased by lessening the Distance of their Quarters from New York, & especially if the River Susquehanna should be passed.

The German Officers in this State have also done great Mischief

* See page 12.

among their Countrymen, great Numbers having, by their Artifices, been seduced from their Allegiance, & their former Sentiments wholly perverted.

We hope this Arrangement will be acceptable to the State of Maryland, as a more equal Distribution & comprehending Precaution better calculated to the general Interest, to which we are persuaded you will cheerfully sacrifice lesser Considerations.

With very great Respect & Consideration,

I remain, Sir, Your Excellcy

most obed. & very H'bble Servt.

His Excellcy Thomas Sim Lee, Gov. of Maryland, Annapolis.

Indorsed,

March 27, 1781.

Council to Daniel Levan, 1781.

Philada., March 27th, 1781.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the President and Council to desire you will immediately forward to the State Treasurer all the old Continental Money now in your hands.

The very many inconveniencies arising from a delay in sending down that money are so great that the Council are anxious to have it paid as soon as possible, and desire you will not delay it a moment.

I am with great Respect,

Your obedient and very humble Servant,

TY. MATLACK, Secy.

To Daniel Levan Esquire.

Council to John Hazelwood, 1781.

Sir,

Application has been made to Council for permission to load on board the Hermion, 1200 barr. of Flour, & 500 barrels of Biscuit. The Council agree to the proposal, and think the shortest Mode of granting the permission, will be for you to give a certificate, that you do not stand in need of the proportion of these articles which the law requires to be delivered to the state, & request you will accordingly grant such certificate accordingly.

I am with great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

T. M. Secy.

Philada. March, 27, 1781.

To John Hazlewood Esqr.

Col. Dan. Brodhead to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Fort Pitt, March, 27th, 1781

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty to inclose an extract of a letter I have just had the Honor to address to his Excellency the Commander in chief.

Captain Craig will have the honor to hand you this, and he is capable of answering most questions that may be put respecting this Department, wherefore I beg leave to refer you to him for circumstances, which may have been omitted.

It remains to inform your Excellency that in my present circumstances it is impossible for me to Garrison Forts Armstrong & Crawford, (Westmoreland frontier,) untill the commander in chief is pleased to direct me to evacuate Fort McIntosh, respecting which I sometime ago wrote to be informed of his pleasure.

I have a party out under Captn. Brady, which I expect will fall in with some of the Indian parties.

With perfect respect & esteem, I have the,
Honor to be your Excellencies most obedt. Servt.
DANIEL BRODHEAD.

His Excelly Jos. Reed, Esqr.

Col. Brodhead to Gen. Washington, 1781

Fort Pitt, March 27th, 1781.
(Extract. No 1.)

Since my last a small paper was brought to me by some faithful Indians, who found it rolled up very neatly in a powder horn which a Disaffected person had lost near the waters of Sandusky. I take the liberty to enclose a Copy of it, I have discovered the writer, & put him in irons, but as too probably some of the Garrison are concerned he may escape before he meets the reward of his Demerit. Indeed this place is infested with such a set of Disaffected Inhabitants, that I have been under the necessity of ordering some away, & others must soon follow to prevent greater Injury to the service.

A number of Delaware Indians from Coochocking have been here since my last, & appear to be as friendly as ever, I am persuaded that a few are well affected, but they are now put to the trial by being ordered to remove hither without loss of time, & remain under our protection where their daily transactions will be seen & known.

I have called upon the County Lieuts. for a few of the Militia, & if I am not disappointed as usual—intend to surprise the Indian towns about Coochocking

Two Delaware Indians who in their Cups spoke contemptuously of our service, I have confined in Irons, but am at a loss what farther to do with them until I see what number join us, & hear what their

general Conduct has been. Immediately after the termination of the intended excursion, I will avail myself of your indulgence to represent the State of things in this District.

I have the honor to be,
with the most perfect respect & esteem,
your Excelys. most obedt. Servt.

His Excelly. Gen. Washington.

No. 2 Pittsburg, Jan. 21st, 1781.

Dr Gentlemen,

If Mr Greverat would succeed with the help of you, the errand he is going upon would be of infinite Service both to me your Brother, & himself, & friends here present, that is here only awaiting for his Return and the Honourable Commanders answers from Detroit, which I suppose there will be no less than one hundred that will accompany him to said place, if the Commander would please to give him the least encouragement possibly he can.

(Copy.)
(Signed,) THOMAS GIRTY.

N. B. This was wrote by a myndert Fisher, who upon being interrogated denies that Girty was privy to it, but that he made use of his name to his Brothers in British Service.

Petition of Penn Tomension and Chusnuthill Townships of Northampton County.

Jan'ry 5th, 1781.

The Pettition of Penn Tomension & Chusnuthill Townships of Northampton County, State of Pennsylvania To the Honourable President And Councill Humbly Sheweth.

That Whereas, by Reason of the incursions of the Savages upon these Defenceless fronteer inhabitants Though has been weell Garded both by Milittia And seven Months men as could be Expected from such small bodyes from Time to time for which We Return our Kind & Sinceer Harty Thanks To his Excellency the President, for the Speedy and Ready relivef that was Given to us by calling out the Milittia and other asistance in time of Need, Notwithstanding We have lost since the tenth of April last thirty-seven Persons Killed & Captivated, four Dwelling houses, a Grist & saw mills all Plundered And Burnt, and a number of horses Carryed of by the enemy: Nevertheless we Have found by experience Since; that a few men in a house has every time We have Been attacked beat the enemy off some times after the house was on fire. Little may be said concerning Savage Cruelty, it is to well known For any inhabitant to Lieve a fronteer without a garde, the temporate weather We Have had this Winter without snow & the sudden draning Back of the

Militia before their times was out apears to us as if some Mistaken information Had been made as if a few men Garding at the head of the Minisinks was suficient to Cover all the fronteers of this County near one hundred Miles in length Which we are very certain that the west end is above fifty miles nearer Neagaroy Than the east end, so that any Scouting party that doth attack our quarter Never will hurt the Delaware inhabitants; the same may be said by them to us, Therefore we Humbly Beg & Beseech as there is but six fronteer townships in this County & we not Knowing where the enemy will strike first that Every township shall have its equil share of men Posted at the most convenient Places for the Benefit of the Publick in General and no officer residing In any of these frontier townships shall be allowed to Posts any of the troops that is sent to us in futer; but the Lieu^t of the County only, as we have Found by Experience Both in the Mellittia & seven months men that some officers Constantly kept the soulders about their own houses & some Townships Not one soulders in it for several months, we are very Certain the Calamity of war must be felt every where over the United States so that we hardly know What number of men can be spaird, However a fronteer must be kept up and we Mean to dispute the Ground By enches with the enemy. We begin to dread the aprocbing spring as We are now quite naket Except a number of helpless familyes that Will flye at the first allarm: if there were fifteen or twenty men in every Township With arms in their hands people would flye to them for refuge instead of crosing the Blue Mountain, it is now our earnest desire that The President and Councill will take the Premicess into a seriouse Consideration and Grant us such relivef as you in your Wisdoms may Think Proper as we are in duty Bound Shall ever Pray.

Nicholas Kern, Col.,	John Harris,
John Gregory, Cap.,	Daniel Warner,
Peter Roth, Capt.,	Nathan Warner,
Paul Solt, Ens.,	Joseph Everett,
Peter Strohl,	Edmund Edmonds,
Henry Bowman,	Peter Edmonds,
Martin Arner,	Ezra Warner,
Henry Bloss,	William Corney,
Phillip George,	William Kneckerbacker,
Nicholas Bax,	George Biwighouse,
John Kline,	Sallomon Barherd,
William Beles,	Arnolt Billig,
Adam Fogelman,	George Drees,
Jacob Haus,	Michael Ero,
Nicholas George,	Michael Happig, Sen'r,
John Rety,	Jacob Hausser, Jun'r,
	and Others.

1781, March 28th. Petition from divers Inhabitants of Northampton respecting the frontiers. Read in Council and ordered to lie on the Table.

C. J. McKean to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Inclosed you have the two Letters requested—I have acted on both, and I think within the line of duty even in the most peaceable times, tho' it is walking in trammels. Messrs. J. Smith, John Jacks, &c., of the House of Assembly are acquainted with my difficulties on these occasions, and I think will forward any proper measures for strengthening the hands of Government.

I am, Dear Sir,

your most obedient humble servant,

THO. M'KEAN.

Philadelphia, March 29th, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire.

George Smith to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Assembly Room, March ye 30th, 1781.

Sir,

Mr. Barkley Cauld me out a fiew minuets a Go and informed me that your Exelancy had Promisd him that you Desind to Give him his 3rd of ye Island, all Within ye Bankd Part of it, therefore if so, from ye Conversation With Councell ye other Day, I Should be Glad if Councel Would Ishu Orders to me how ye Division Should Run or he Will Say I Go Directoly Contrary to ye minds of Council,

and Sir I am

With all Due Respect,

GEORGE SMITH.*

Directed,

His Exel^y J. Reed.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 679.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Circular.

Philadelphia, March 30, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed an Ordinance relative to the Capture & Condemnation of Prizes,* and repealing all former Acts & Resolutions of Congress contrary to the true Intent & Meaning of this Ordinance.

I have the Honor to be
with the highest respect,
your Excellency's most
obedient & most humble Servant,
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

Directed,

His Excellency President Reed.

Ordinance relative to Capture and Condemnation of Prizes, 1781.

An Ordinance Relative to the Capture and Condemnation of Prizes.

The United States in Congress assembled, taking into consideration the implacable war waged against them by the King of Great-Britain, and judging it inconsistent with their dignity as a free and independent nation, any longer to continue indulgencies and exemptions to any of the subjects of their enemy, who is obstinately bent upon their destruction or subjugation, have thought it proper to ordain and order, and it is hereby *Ordained* and *Ordered*, That henceforward general Reprisals be granted against the ships, goods, and subjects of the King of Great-Britain; so that, as well the fleets and ships of these United States, as also all other ships and vessels commissioned by letters of marque or general reprisals, or otherwise, by the authority of the United States in Congress assembled, shall and may lawfully seize all ships, vessels and goods belonging to the King or Crown of Great Britain, or to his subjects, or others inhabiting within any of the territories or possessions of the aforesaid King of Great Britain, and bring them to judgment in any of the courts of admiralty that now are or hereafter may be

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 683.

established in any of these United States, by the authority of the United States in Congress assembled; and the said courts of admiralty are hereby authorized and required to take cognizance of, and judicially to proceed upon all and all manner of captures, seizures, prizes and reprisals of all ships and goods that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same, and, according to the course of admiralty and the laws of nations, to adjudge and condemn all such ships, vessels and goods, as shall belong to the King of Great Britain or to his subjects, or to any others inhabiting within any of the countries, territories or dominions, or possessions of the aforesaid King of Great Britain:

And that the board of admiralty or secretary of marine forthwith prepare, and lay before the United States in Congress assembled, a draught of instructions for such ships or vessels as shall be commissionated for the purposes above mentioned.

And it is hereby farther *Ordained*, That the destruction of papers, or the possession of double papers, by any captured vessel, shall be deemed and taken as just cause for the condemnation of such captured vessel; and that, when any prize, having been taken and possessed by the enemy twenty-four hours, shall be retaken from them, the whole of such re-captured prize shall be condemned for the use of the re-captors; but, in cases where the prize shall have continued in the possession of the enemy less than twenty-four hours, it shall be restored to the original owner or owners, except one-third part of the true value thereof, which shall be allowed a salvage to the re-captors.

And it is hereby farther *Ordained*, That the citizens and inhabitants of these United States be, and they hereby are strictly enjoined and required, to abstain from all intercourse, correspondence or dealings, whatsoever, with the subjects of the said King of Great-Britain, while at open war with these United States, as they will answer the same at their peril; *and* the Executives of the several States are hereby called upon to take the most vigilant and effectual measures for detecting and suppressing such intercourse, correspondence or dealings, and bringing the authors thereof, or those concerned therein, to condign punishment.

And, in order the more effectually to remove every colourable pretence for continuing such intercourse, it is hereby *Ordained*, That, from and after the first day of November next no benefit shall be claimed from, nor countenance or regard paid to, any letters of passport or safe conduct, heretofore granted by the Congress of the United States, to any of the citizens or inhabitants thereof, or to any person or persons whatever, for the removal of their property or effects from places within the dominions or possessions of the said King of Great-Britain:

Provided always, That this Ordinance shall not extend to authorise the capture or condemnation of any vessel belonging to any inhabitant of Bermudas, which being loaded with salt only, may arrive in any of these United States on or before the first day of May next.

And it is hereby *Ordained*, That all former acts or resolutions of Congress, contrary to the tenor, true intent and meaning of this Ordinance, be and they are hereby repealed.

Done by the United States in Congress assembled, the Twenty-seventh Day of March, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty One, and in the Fifth Year of Our Independence.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, President.

Attest.—CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.*

Pres. Reed to Mons. Holker, 1781.

Sir,

I have duly receved your Favours of the 26th & 28th Inst., with the Inclosures, which have been communicated to the Council—as soon as those in the French Language are translated & the Leisure of the Board will admit they will be maturely considered & their Sentiments communicated.

I am Sir,
with due Consideration & Regard,
Your Obed. Hble Ser.

Directed,

Hon. Mr. Holker, Consul Gen. of France.

Indorsed,—March 31, 1781.

Pres. Reed to George Lux, 1781.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your Favour of the 26th Inst. with the Inclosure. We have made Inquiry after Ellis but can obtain no farther Information than what is contained in the inclosed Letter from Col. Nicola. From the Circumstances as stated in your Letter we fear there would be little Probability of convicting him of

* From printed copy.

Forgery or even of a Cheat in this State as there has been no Publication of the suppositious Pass in this State.—As to treasonable Practices we had a Law some Time ago vesting a very ample Power in the Council to apprehend suspicious Characters, but it being unfavourable to Liberty it was properly made temporary & occasionally renewed, but this has been omitted by the present House of Assembly so that we now stand upon the old & accustomed Footing of the criminal Law in which strict legal Proof will be required.—The Attention of the Court & your own in particular I am desired by the Council to acknowledge, & we most sincerely wish a like Vigilance prevailed in every Part of the Country as we are persuaded it would have a happy Tendency to disappoint the Machination of our artful & insidious Enemy.

I am with much Esteem Sir,

Your Obed. Hble. Ser.

J. R.

Directed,

George Lux, Esq., Baltimore.

Indorsed—March 31, 1781.

Estimate respecting State House Steeple, 1781.

Catalogue of Sundry Necessaries for pulling down the Wood-work of the steeple at the State-house, and Repairing the remainder, &c.

30 Scaffolds from 40 to 45 feet long, and not less than 3 inches Diameter at top.

30 Ditto,—from 35 to 40 feet, the same diameter at the top, because less than 3 inches diameter at the top end of a scaffold pole is of little use.

100 Poles of a more slender Construction, so they be tough & straite, from 30 to 40 feet long, and from 5 to 6 inches diameter at butt & 3 inches at top; this last mentioned article of Poles are chiefly for ledgers, & don't require so great a thickness of butt as the upright poles.

	Reduced.
160 Pieces of good tough Oake Scantling for Pulloocks clear of Nots, 16 feet long each, 3 by 4,	2360 feet.
42 Rafters, 24 feet long, 7 by 5 & 3,	1512
21 Collar-beams, 15 feet long, 7 by 2,	357
	4229 feet.

3500 feet of Laths,—5000 feet of inch Boards.

8000 Shingles—2000 feet of 3 inch pine.

Plank Reduced, 10 of which plank must be 30 feet long & good stuff.

1 Takel & fall, and a Leading Block.

1 Coile of the largest sort of Ratling, for Lashings, &c.

About 100 lbs. of 20ᵈ & 200 lbs. of 10ᵈ Nails for present use, till such time as the Wood-work is pulled down, when I Expect there will be a sufficient supply.*

Dubois and Goforth to Pres. Reed, 1781.

May it Please your Excellency,

We just recᵈ your favour of the 27th Inst., in which you are fearfull some mistake had taken place with respect to those Gentlemen who had been in Captivity, as you Imagine they had not been refer'd to a settlement of their Prison Accᵗ in Philᵃ.; the fact is, we have settled with Capᵗ Turnbull for his Depreciation and that only, being furnish'd with the accounts from the Paymaster of the Regiment and Directed to settle by the Pay Roles, we concluded that every Payment between the first Janʸ, 1777, unto the 1ˢᵗ August, 1780, was to be made good by an allowance—agreeable to the scale of Depreciation, on this principle we proceeded so far and no farther; Refering the prison accᵗˢ to be settl'd in Philᵃ. We have sent for Capᵗ Turnbull, who is coming to settle his Prison Accᵗˢ, and will wait on your Excellency. Council is Pleas'd to observe that they do not perfectly understand what is meant by Settleing with those on Command at Fort Pitt. With respect to which we would beg leave to observe that we conceive that it was not only the Intent of the Legislature, but also a matter that your Excellency has much at heart that the whole of the Pensylvania line should be settled with on the Score of Depreciation, and that for this purpose different Posts were assigned for the different Regiments, and that all such accᵗˢ should be settled agreeable to the Pay Roles. On this principle we proceeded with regard to those on Command at Fort Pitt, Stating their accᵗˢ and completing their Certificates in the Books, to be under the Immediate direction of the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council. We still hope no mistake has yet taken place that can in any respect effect the Public Interest, Permit us to say that we shall at all times pay the greatest Respect to your Excellencys orders and are never more happy than when we have them

* There is no date to this paper—but it was probably the foundation of the Assembly's action on page 52, being found among the papers of this year. See also Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 662.

Pointedly, and therefore shall Proceed no farther in that Respect untill we are Honor'd with your positive Order. In the mean while we beg leave to subscribe ourselves

your most Obedient &
verry Humble Servants,
AB^m DUBOIS,
WILLIAM GOFORTH.*

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pensylvania.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Carlisle, April 1st, 1781.

Sir,

I arrived at this place last night. The settlement with the troops at York Town lasted longer than the time published and I could not leave any part of the business, however it is no inconvenience to the Troops here. I have finished the business at each post before I left it (a few at Downings town excepted.) There are yet numbers of the discharged men unsettled with who have not attended, many of them may plead ignorance of the time fixed for settlement, I would beg leave to suggest the propriety of publishing a reasonable time for revisiting the several posts on my return; after which, I think, their having neglected to attend ought to deprive them of the priviledge of any future settlement. I shall wait at this place for the further orders of Council. I fear I shall run out of Certificates, I am almost certain I shall, I wish I had brought some quires more, but my Sulkey Box would not contain them. I must request Council will forward three or four quires by some safe and sure conveyance. The advances to the prisoners have not yet come on. There are a number of Officers here who have been prisoners; hitherto we met with none except those two at Yellow springs mentioned in a former letter. They wish earnestly to have a settlement, I wish we could accommodate them. I suppose the papers from the Auditor General will arrive shortly, then every difficulty will be obviated.

The depreciation due to the Penn^a line will amount to a very great sum. The difficulty in settlement would be very little, if they were all engaged from the same time; but the different times of Commencement, the frequent promotions and reduction of sergeants and Corporals, the desertions of privates and the times of their absense and rejoining their regiments, first examining the muster rolls, &c. for all these things, and then calculating on the time ascertained, is attended with no little trouble.

There are a number of Officers who had been taken prisoners in

* See pages 16, 17, 67.

the service of this state, have attended at different posts since my setting out, some of them are not long ago released (perhaps since the act was passed,) others a considerable time. These all consider themselves included in the 8th section of the act, They say that they applied within a month after their return to be taken into the line, and that their being left out does not rest with them. There is a Resolution of Congress of the 24th November (I think 1778,) which they also construe in their favour. I should be glad to have the instructions of the Hon'ble Council on this matter, I am sorry to give the trouble but these officers are a good deal clamorous, and consider themselves injured.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect,

your Excellency's most Obedt

verry Humble Servant,

JNo NICHOLSON.

Directed,

(Public service.)

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, preside supreme Ex. Council, Philadelphia.

favd pr. Capt Douglas.

Title of Indians to Conestoga Manor, 1781.

1 Feb'y, 1717.

The Commissioners of Property by their warrant directed to Jacob Taylor, Surveyor General of Pennsylvania, order him to survey a Tract of land lying between Susquehanna River and Conestogoe Creek from the Mouth of the said Creek as far up the River as the lands granted to Peter Charter and then by a line running from the said River to Conestogo Creek and make return thereof to the Secretary's Office for the proper use and Behoof of Wm Penn, Esqr Proprietary and Governor in chief of the province of Pennsylvania, his Heirs & Assigns forever.

See Certified Copy.*

The said Tract was surveyed pursuant to the above warrants and returned into the Secretary's Office and called 16000 acres in which is included the Tract of land called the Indian Town.

See plan.*

It is suggested that the said William Penn by some Instrument of writing gave permission for an old Indian named Johass and his Indians to live upon the said Tract of land called the Indian Town containing about 500 acres and the same was allotted to them as

a place of Residence by the said Wm Penn. In or about the year 1763, some of the descendants of the said old Johas then residing on the said Tract were there killed and the remainder (except one or two that escaped) were sent for by the Magistrates of Lancaster and put into the Work House for protection and Safety but were there all killed.

Upon the decease of the above Indians the Proprietary's Agents immediately took possession of the said Tract called Indian Town and his Tenants have quietly occupied it and paid the rent to the proprietarys till his Grant in September last.

---

5 Novem., 1768.

By deed of that date at a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix the Sachems of the Six Nations conveyed to the Proprietaries a large Territory in Consideration of 10,000 dollars and also thereby for themselves and for their Confederate and dependant Tribes and their Children, Heirs and descendants among them those that escaped from Indian Town in Consideration of £200 did remise and release all right and Title to a Tract of land part of the Manor of Conestogoe containing ab^t 500 a^s whereon old Johass and his Indians lately lived and dwelt by the consent and permission of the said proprietarys who allotted the same to them for a place of residence To hold the same to the said Proprietaries in fee and that free and clear from all claim of the said Nation there descendants.

See deed in possession of J. Penn.*

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20 May, 1775.

By indorsement on the back of the above deed the Surviving Relations of Johass acknowledge to have received of John Penn 300 dollars over and above the within Consideration of £200 in full Satisfaction for all Claim & that the representative of the said Johass might have to the within mentioned Tract of 500 acres where the said Johass and his family dwelt by permission of the proprietary.

See the above Indorsement properly executed in the presence of several creditable witnesses.*

The above deed and Indorsement intended to be recorded at Lancaster.

Indorsed,

1781, April 1st. Concerning the Indian Right in Conestogo manor.

* The documents here referred to are not found with the paper.

Pres. Reed to the Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

I must rely very much upon the Indulgence of the House with Respect to the inclosed Report.* It having fallen to my Lot to prepare & digest it, the Multiplicity of Engagements, & frequent Indisposition has retarded it much to my own Concern & that of my Colleagues. But I hope it will afford some useful Information to the House & convey a general Idea of the present State of the Commonwealth or the most essential Articles of its Policy, Revenue & Government.

I have the Honour to be with much Esteem Sir,

Your obed. Hble Serv.,

J. R.

Directed,

The Hon. The Speaker of the Ass.

Col. Lochry to Col. D. Brodhead, 1781.

Twelve Mile Run, April 2nd, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I received your favour of the First by the Express, I likewise received two other letters since I returned from Philad^a but an indisposition of Body Hindered me from having the pleasure of waiting on you.

I collected the principal officers of the County together to send the answer you requested of me, I was not able to attend their meeting but requested Col^o Cook to send an express to you, with what encouragement you might depend on, which I hope you have received by this time.

I am just returned from burying a man killed & scalped by the Indians, at Col^o Pomeroy's house, one other man is missing & all Pomeroy's effects carried off. I have been attempting to get some Militia to cover our Frontier until some other succour arrives which I hope will be soon. I am afraid from the Disposition of the people you have little to expect from us. If the Cumberland Militia arrive in time for our intended Expedition, they shall go with you & your humble servant to Boot.

Your humble serv't,

A. LOCHRY.

Directed,

Col^o D.m^l Brodhead.

(Copy.)

* Not found with this.

James Peiry to Col. Brodhead, 1781.

Sewickley, April 2nd, 1781.

Sir,

We sent Instructions to the second & Third Battallions of Westmoreland Militia, agreeable to your orders to raise Volunteers for the Expedition. The Major of the Third Battallion came to me on Saturday last, & informed me that he could not raise one volunteer for the Expedition. The Second has made no return yet, but I am doubtful they have done nothing.

I have not yet heard what Colo Lochry has done in the first Battallion; but upon the whole, I believe you need not depend on any men from this County, as the people in the interior part of the County live in a state of indifferent security; & the Frontiers dare not well leave their Families.

I am, Sir, your most Obedt & very hble. servt,

JAMES PEIRY, S. Lt.

(Copy.)

Dant Brodhead, Colo Commanding W. D.

Resolution of Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly
Monday, 2d April, 1781.

Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be authorised and directed to have such parts of the Steeple of the State House* as are constructed of Wood and in a decayed and dangerous condition, taken down; and the remainder sufficiently and effectually covered, in such manner as may be necessary for the preservation of said Building:

And that they be further empowered and directed to dispose of for the highest price, all or such parts of the Materials so taken down as they shall judge proper.

Extract from the Minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.

Indorsed,

April 2d, 1781.

Resolution of Assembly respecting taking down the State House Steeple.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 682, and page 46 of this Vol.

Pres. Reed to John Arndt, 1781.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 25 Inst. has been received, & we are much concerned to find the Treasurer of the County so unable to answer the Draught, & the more as it is not in our Power to send you Money, The State Treasurer not having £10 in the Treasury unappropriated to Uses of immediate & indispensable Necessity. Inclosed is a Letter to the Commissioners, requesting their speedy Exertion, both with Regard to the Taxes & the Collection of Monies, under the Law for recruiting the Federal Army. We are very sensible of the Importance, & even Necessity of paying the Men, & are not a little mortified that the Backwardness of the People in Payment of Taxes, & the Officers in executing the Laws, creates so much Difficulty to us & Disgrace to the State. The Eastern States have made a surprizing Progress in recruiting their Troops; while we are more deficient than we have ever been during the War—Mr Dishler has been down representing his Necessities for Money, in which we could give him but little Help.—Should you receive old Continental in future, be pleased to send it for exchange in State Money, as there are many good Reasons for collecting all that Currency as soon as possible. We hope you will have Patience to bear with some little Difficulties, & we shall do every Thing in our Power to relieve you.

I am, Sir, Your Obed. Hble. Servt.,

J. R.

April 2d.

John Arndt, Esq., Northampton.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, April 3d, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have received the most alarming Accounts from Camp of the Scarcity of Flour, & most earnestly entreat the Exertions of Council in directing a Quantity to be procured & sent forward without Delay, If a Quantity of this Article is not in the speediest Manner procured, the small Army now with the Commander in Chief cannot possibly be supported, & all Accessions to their Numbers will but increase their Distress. We have the firmest Reliance in the good Disposition of Council, & have had their Embarrassments represented to us so frequently that we are distressed to be under the Necessity of urging them on this Head. But as the Assembly are now sitting we hope some Means may be fallen on to procure the Quota of Flour called for from this State as the chief Dependance for this Article is placed on the Supplies from this & the State of New Jersey. Convinced as we are of the Willingness

of Council to do all in their Power, we suppose the Matter mentioned in the Extracts of Letters from His Excellency, the Com^r in Chief, & the Commissary General of Purchases to him, to be founded in Misapprehension, & should be happy if the Hon'ble Council will be pleased to favour us with Information on the Subject.

We have the Honour to be,
With the greatest Respect,
Your very obed. Servants,

RICHARD PETERS.
By order.

Directed,

On public service.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, President, &c., of Pennsilvania.
(War Office.)

Extract of a Letter from the Com^r in Chief to Congress, dated New Windsor, 24th March, 1781.

"I do myself the Honour to enclose the Copy of a Letter from the "Commissary General of Purchases, principally to show to what a "Situation we shall soon be reduced for Flour, should the State of "Pennsilvania adhere to their Order to their Agent to send no "more forward, on Account of the Convention Troops being ordered "into the State. I hope there may have been some Misconception "in the Matter, for it is hardly possible that the State should stop "the Supplies for the Army because about 1500 Prisoners are "brought into it for Support.

Extract of a Letter from Col. Blaine, Com'y Gen'l of Purchases, to His Excel'y, the Com^r in Chief, dated Newburgh, 23d March, 1781.

"The Information I have received from Philad^a is very alarming "& gives me great Concern. Mr. Hazlewood, State Agent for the "City has informed my Assistant that he has Directions from "Council to send no more Provisions to the Grand Army until "farther Orders—the Convention Troops being on their March from "Virginia to quarter in some part of that State."

JOHN HART TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philad^a, April 3^d, 1781.

Sir,

A Detachment from the Artillery Regim^t, Newtown, has rec^d Orders to be in Readiness to march in a few Days;—as the third Bounty to the Soldiers is not due until the first of May, I would wish the Directions of Council whether I am to pay this before that Time, should the Detachment march sooner. I am sorry that I cannot inform Council that the recruiting Service in that Regiment is attended with much Success. I have attested but Seven in the whole since I received my Orders, one of whom was for a different Regiment, and five were of the discharged Soldiers, who reinlisted. But few Class men have been delivered—I do not exactly know the Number; Several also have deserted—I believe there are not Seventy in the whole Regiment at Newtown. The Officers have informed me, that by a Resolve of Council, the Sergeants were entitled to a Dollar for every Recruit, besides the two Dollars to the recruiting Officer mentioned in the Instructions—that Resolve I have not seen, & am ignorant of. With the Enlistments enclosed to me by the Honble. Council came a Strip of Paper, on which was mentioned their Number, and a Note that the Serjeants were not paid—I do not rightly understand this, as on the Duplicates delivered me by the Adjutant, there are endorsed Receipts for one Dollar, signed by the Serjeants. I shall thankfully receive every necessary Instruction from Council.

I am, Sir, your Ob^t & very humble Servt.,

JOHN HART.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in Council.

A. MCFARLANE TO JOHN PERRY, 1781.

New Store April 3d, 1781.

Sir,

I take this oppertunity of informing you that without thire is Better Regulations in your Business, especially your Deliverys at Fort Pitt, I must Beg Leave to Decline from Serving under you. On Saterday the 31st, March Between 11 & 3 O'clock in the Day, I arrived at Fort Pitt with Two Boat loads of Corn in Good Order, I emediately applied to the A. Q. M. for a Cart, he Told me it was imployed in hawling Coals, & as soon as they were Done I might have it, I then went in Quest of the Forrage Master Mr. McCurday who I was informed, was out a Gunning and Could not be found to

late in the evening. Rain & Snow Come on that night, & the Greatest part of the Corn lay exposed to the weather, and other Dammages Till Munday about 10 O'clock when Greatest part of one Boat load was Issued out of the Boat to the officers, & others that was intitl'd to Forrage, the last Boat measured 98 Busshels which I applied for a recipt for that Quainty But was refused by the F. M. and said he was informed by the soldier that they took in But 90 Busshels, & would Give a receipt for no more as he said the Corn swelled 8 Busshels, I then applied to Coln. Broadhead who appointed 2 officers to inquire into the matter who gave it as their oppinion in writing that a receipt should be Given for the Number of Busshels reed. by the F. M., he then refused again, I repeated my application to the Commander who sent for McCurday, & rallid him on the subject he then Consented to pass his receipt for the whole which Detaind me 24 hours longer, the other Boat reed. the same Quantity & Delivered 90 Busshels and there was a good Deal remaind in the Bottom of the Boat, But being employ'd weating on the Commanding Officer, & F. M. Could not Give emediat attendance to the whole Delivery, when I Came to enqure at the sejt. what was Done with the remd. of the Corn in his Boat he Told me he Kenw nothing about it, & said he would be Dam'd if he Caird. I then made enquiry through the Town if any of the soldiers were selling Corn, and found they had sold it to Nancey Christy for whiskey. I then apply'd to the Commander to have them punished, and others put in their place, main Time the Quarter Master Sample pushed them off Before I had Time to have them secured. I understand they have made a Common practice of selling your Grain at every opportunity, as it is out of my Power to be at the Delivery of every Boat load.

I am with respect,
your Humble Servant,

A McFARLANE.

—

Westmoreland *ss.*

Personally appeared before me one of the Commonwealths Justices for said County, Andrew McFarlane, and being Sworn according to Law Deposeth and Sayeth that this Letter was wrote by him to Col. John Perry, and that it Contains a true State of Facts according as they are therein Represented, Sworn before me the 26th, April 1781.

EDW. COOK.

Directed,

Col. John Perry, Commissioner of Purcheses for Westmoreland, County.

Col. Brodhead to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Fort Pitt, April 3d, 1781.

Dear Sir,

The Revd. Mr. David Zeisberger is the bearer of this Letter. I have requested him to go to Philada. as I expected the Ho'nble Executive Council, Congress, & the Board of War, would be glad of an opportunity to examine him respecting his mission, & the disposition of the Indians in general, He is a faithful man, & what he says may be relyed on.

I take the liberty to inclose Copies of Letters just received from Colo. Lochry & Perry* by which you will see how badly I am supported by the Westmoreland Militia and how necessary it is that the Laws of the State should be enforced, andt axes collected, for untill that is the case the Inhabitants of that County will do no service to the public nor themselves.

I have the Honor to be,
with the ntmost respect & esteem,
your Excellencies most obedt. Servt.
DANIEL BRODHEAD.

His Excellency Jos. Reed Esrq.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, April 5th, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have the honor to acknowledge your Excellency's Letter of the 4th inst., and are very sensible of the embarrasments that attend the procuring of supplies for the public; and as it is our wish to cultivate harmony with all zealously concerned in the common cause, and none more so than with the Executive of the State of Pennsylvania, you may rest assured will be a sufficient stimulus to engage us to make every representation you can wish, and shall ever be happy when it is in our power to wipe away any false insinuations that may tend to to the prejudice of Gentlemen in public station.

I have the honor to be
with every sentiment of esteem,
your Excellency's most
Obedt Hum. Servant,
EZEK. CORNELL.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of the State of Pennsylvania.
War Office.

* See pages, 51, 52.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

Gentlemen,

We received your Favour of the 3d Inst. If the Conduct of publick Bodies is to be judged of by the Representations of Assistant Commissaries, it is to be wish'd they would be better informed before they undertake to write to their Principals & by that Means create unnecessary & unpalatable Discussion.—There has been no order given to stay the Provisions going out of the State to the main Army as there are a Number of Teams now constantly on that Service. The Fact alluded to is this, that when the whole of the Convention Prisoners were expected in the State & an Estimate was formed of the additional Expence together with that of feeding, recruiting, & cloathing & equipping our Line, the Expence of our old & permanent Establishment of Prisoners Artificers Invalids &c. & the little Prospect of receiving early Relief from the Assembly—& it appeared that our weekly Expenditures now exceed nearly 3 times our Receipts a Caution was given to Hazelwood that he might not embarrass himself with Engagements which we saw no Prospect of his answering for in the Distress of the Treasury here Mr Rittenhouse was obliged to draw on the County Treasurers in order to support the County Commissioners & recruiting Service & thereby anticipate the Receipts here. It is a painful Circumstance to be obliged to disclose the publick Distress or lay under the Imputation of wanting a due Attention to the publick Necessities: but since the improvident Representations of the Commissaries obliges us we must inform you that the Treasurer has been for days together without a Shilling & that at this Moment he has not money to pay the Assembly Men their Wages. From your own Experience you will be able to determine whether Supplies are to be procured without Money & whether it is honest or politick to make heavy Engagements which we know we cannot comply with.—We can appeal to yourselves whether in any Emergency or on ordinary Occasions we have been wanting to the publick Interest we shall persevere in the like Conduct conceiving that we shall thus serve our Country as effectually as those who are actually in an immediate Line of Military Service: But we cannot create Resources or the Means of procuring them & am sorry if our well meant & disinterested Exertions do not give the Satisfaction we would wish. This is the second Mistake Col. Blaine has made, so that we hope in future due Allowance will be made upon his Communications as it is our Opinion he would have done well to have address'd himself to us immediately rather than have troubled the General & Congress upon a Matter in which we need no Stimulus within the Compass of our Abilities. Upon finding that the whole of the Convention Prisoners were not expected Mr Hazelwood was directed to go on & purchase on Credit as we have

not Money. The other Purchasers have had no Countermands but the Reverse. We rely upon the Candour of the Board to represent the Matter properly to Congress & the General & to be assured that we shall do all in our Power to forward the Supplies.

Indorsed,

April 5th, 1781. To Hon'ble Board of War.

Pres. Reed to Archibald McClean, 1781.

Sir,

I duly received your Favours by Major Moore—it is indeed a most unfortunate Situation in which we are by the Backwardness of the People to pay their Taxes. Your Letter is an Echo of what we have had from most of the other Counties who all send to the State Treasury for Money, not reflecting that the Supplies of the State Treasury depend upon the Country, & that there is no other Mode of our filling it but by Taxes which are always so deficient in Time & Value as to fall short one half of what they were when laid.—We have sent you an Order for £1000 which will include the £700 you refer to, but it is out of our Power to do more for you at present. Inclosed is a Letter to the Commissioners to which we must request you to add your urgent Solicitations to them to do their duty in Collecting the Taxes & Recruits by Classes or we may expect the most unhappy Consequences. It is impossible for any one to conceive the Difficulties in carrying on the publick Business when so little Attention is paid to the collection of Taxes, & the People so reluctant to part with their Property for publick Use.

The Council approve the Payment of the Gratuity, our Resolution which was directed to be sent to you but by Accident omitted. It may perhaps have been best to take new Inlistments but we were of a quite different Opinion as it implies the former Inlistmt under which they were held to be invalid & sanctifies all the Complaints of the Soldiers on that Head. We have sent by this Oppy 100 Inlistments, & desire you to forward the Duplicates & an Acct of your Proceeding as soon as the Affairs are finished.

I am Sir with Esteem

Your Obed. Hble. Ser.,

JOS. REED.

Indorsed,—April 8, 1781.

Orders of Genl. St. Clair, 1781.

Head Quarters,
Philad^a, April 5, 1781.

A detachment of the Pennsylvania line to hold themselves in readiness to march to and assemble at York Town immediately.

	Col.	Lt. Col.	Major.	Surg.	Capt^s.	S. Mate.	Subs.	S. M.	Q. M.	Serjeants.	D. & F.	R. & File.
First Reg^t to furnish,		1			5	1	10	1		12	8	200
Second D^o to furnish,	1		1	1	3		6		1	6	4	120
Third D^o,		1	1		2	1	4			4	2	80
Fourth D^o,			1	1	4		8	1		6	4	160
Fifth D^o,	1		1	1	6		12	1	1	15	10	240
Sixth D^o,	1				4	1	8	1	1	9	6	160
Total,	3	2	4	3	24	3	48	3	3	52	34	960

First and Second Regiments are to form One Battalion—
8 Comp. of 40 R. & File each, 320 men.
Third & Fifth D^o.—One Battalion, 320
Fourth & Sixth D^o.—One Battalion, 320
960

The Senior Captains & Subalterns in the several Regiments are to be warned for this Detachment. The Cloathing to equip it will be forwarded immediately to the different Cantonments.

Lt Hughes late Qu^r Mas. to the first Brigade is transfer'd to the Second, and Lt North to the first.

By Order Maj^r Gen. St Clair.

JOS. HARMER, Lt Col.

Pres. Reed to F. A. Muhlenberg, 1781.

Sir,

The inclosed Papers, which it is our Duty to communicate to the House, will exhibit a melancholy, tho' too true a Picture of our present Situation, & the Probability of some alarming Consequences to the general Interest, & particularly dishonourable to this State, unless prevented by the most seasonable & vigorous Measures. We have so often called upon the Commissioners of the Taxes, & urged

our Distresses, with the Necessity of their exerting themselves, & with so little Effect, that we can promise ourselves no Relief from them. It is painful to us so frequently to call the Attention of the House to the Subject of Supplies; but the Importance of the Subject & the Impossibility of our complying with the Demands & the fatal Consequences of a Failure, will, we trust, sufficiently justify us.

I am, Sir, with great Respect & Regard,

Your Obed. Hble. Servt.

Indorsed,
April 6, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

We consider the Advices contained in the inclosed Papers to be of so much Importance, that we have forwarded them immediately to the House. The Intricacy of the Navigation of the River Delaware, & the great Expence which attended its Defence, have occasioned a Reduction of the Force, which it may now be necessary to increase; if the House should be of the same Opinion, they will, we presume, take the Subject into immediate Consideration, & provide speedy & effectual Supplys of Money for this important Purpose.

I am, Sir,—

April 7, 1781.
To F. A. Muhlenberg, Esq., Speaker of the General Assembly.

Sec'y Matlack to John Lukens, 1781.

Philad^a, April 6, 1781.

Sir,

His Excellency the President & the Council Order me to request you will permit E. Burd, Esqr., to search the Surveyor Gen^ls office for the following records, vizt:

"Warrant dated 29th March, 1749, to Malcolm McMichael for 100 acres or 150 acres in Little Britain township, Lanc^r county, and the survey—The survey is called Derry."

"Survey under a warrant to James Murray, dated 12th Augt., 1741.

"Survey under a warrant to Edgehill, dated 16 July, 1743, the survey made on the 29th May, 1772."

And permit him to have copies thereof.

I am, &c.,
T. M., Sec'y.

Directed,
John Lukens, Esqr.

JAMES MOORE TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Downings Town, April 6th, 1781.

His Excellency the President of Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Sir,

As a Detachment of One Hundread men will march in a few days from this place belonging to the Second Pennsylvania Regiment—greater part of whom have still three Pounds of their bounty due them which Ought to be paid previous to their marching, have therefore to request you to send ye Bearer, Lt. Whitehead, Five Hundread Pounds, which may probably answer the purpose.

I am, sir,

your Humble Servt,

JAMES MOORE.

PRES. REED TO COMMITTEE OF ASSEMBLY, 1781.

April 6, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Propositions contained in the Minute of the House of the 31st Ult. seem to be quite distinct & unconnected, & have therefore been so considered by the Council. The first is a Proposition to lay out the Monies arising from the Impost Law in Bills of Exchange, the small Sum hitherto received on that Law, viz., £127 14, 1¼, & the little Probability of its affording a very productive Revenue without some Check to the evasions now practised, very much lessen the Importance of the Object, but the Council join in Opinion with the Committee that it would be a beneficial Expenditure of the Money.

As to the second, viz., The recalling Mr. Searle, we are so unfortunate as to differ from those Gentlemen who espouse that Measure, & that for the following Reasons.

1. The Objects, viz., to obtain Specie & military Supplies are as desirable as ever, the Necessities of the State being as great, & the publick Credit having rather declined than advanced since his Departure so as to make the above Articles of greater Necessity than at any Time these 3 Years past.

2. This being the Case, it does not appear adviseable to recall him when he may be upon the point of completing his Business, as in that Case all would stop, & all unfinished Engagements would remain so, & more especially as we had no Intelligence of his Progress or Prospects, tho it may be daily expected, & there can be no

Doubt but his Credit would be immediately affected by a publick Resolution of the Assembly in his Recall.

3. The Objection of the Dutch War operates differently on the Minds of the Council from the Sense of the Committee, as we apprehend his Business will be rather facilitated than obstructed by this Event—Great Brittain has now become the common Enemy of both Countries, all motives with Holland against taking part with us have ceased, & irritated by her Losses she will seek Revenge by every Means the most effectual—She has not been at War for half a Century, & therefore must be considered as ill prepared with Fleets & Armies, but she has had a long & profitable Peace by which she is enrich'd. America is directly the Reverse, she is poor & warlike, & the Distance from Europe is an additional Motive for other Nations to keep Great Brittain engaged with us as more expensive transfering & keeping British fleets & Armies at a great Distance from themselves. But it is said being now at War herself she will not be able to spare us Money, but the History of commercial Nations engaged in War shows the contrary, these very Dutch when engaged in the War of the Succession, subsidized half the minor Princes in Germany, & England in the last War, when deeply engaged herself, & groaning under heavy Debts did the same Thing with the King of Prussia & many other Princes—France did the same with Sweden & Russia, why may we not expect the same Conduct towards us? The Prospect of coming in for a share of our Trade will also probably have some Effect, we see it had a great Influence on the City of Amsterdam in their late Treaty, & there is certainly no State in the Union whose commercial Friendship is more worth cultivating than that of Pennsylvania—If therefore Holland should see her own Interest, as most probably she will, & it may be demonstrated that the Common Enemy can no where be more effectually annoyed & her Fleets & Armies employed without Prejudice to them than in America, there can be no Doubt but she will willingly advance Money on a much more advantageous Lay than a Subsidy, which differs from a Loan as much as a Gift does.

4. The Expectation of Supplies of Cloathing & military Stores from Congress must we fear be deemed fallacious after the Disappointments they have experienced for four Years past, which have greatly endangered the Cause & have operated so powerfully on Congress that notwithstanding they had a Member on the Spot they have sent a special Envoy to make necessary Inquiries when Success is uncertain & Prospects unknown. Farther, this Expectation if better founded is opposed to the Confederation, the Articles of which direct "that each State shall allways keep up a well regulated "& disciplined Militia sufficiently armed & accoutred & provide & "constantly keep ready for Use in publick Stores a due Number of "Field Peices & Tents & a proper Quantity of Arms, Ammunition, "& Camp Equipage."—And in the 9th Article it is declared "that "the Legislature of each State shall appoint the regiment Officers,

"raise the Men, cloath, arm & equip them in a Soldier like Manner "at the Expence of the United States"—Under which Article the Congress have lately called on us to supply Canteens & Knapsacks & other Articles for the Line of this State—To depend on Congress therefore for what they have expressly directed the States to provide & further to depend upon the partial Supplies to be pick'd up here after past Experience, appears to us to be placing our Confidence on what must naturally be expected to fail & disappoint us. But should Congress be able to supply us the Goods coming in Bales not made up Cloathes, & coarse woollen & Linnens being in constant Demand the State can run little Risque of a Loss.

6. The Agent being sent to Transact a special Business, & having left his Family behind it cannot be presumed he will stay after that Business is finished, or if there is no Probability of Success: to recall him therefore knowing no more than that he had arrived is putting a Stigma upon a Gentleman who has deserved well of the publick, having served it faithfully in various Capacities, & would be particularly ungrateful in this State, for whom he undertook the Voyage, which as in the Case of Mr. Laurens might have terminated in a long & painful Captivity & perhaps Death itself, & that depending on the Justice & Generosity of the Assembly for his Reward.

7. (To save Expence seems in our Opinion the only Reason of Weight) but the principal Expence is already incurred, he has gone at the publick Charge & will return in the same Manner—the saving therefore must be very inconsiderable as it can only be the Expence of a private Gentleman & Servant for a few Weeks, the Difference between coming Home on the present Call or when his Business shall be done or it appears desperate this may amount to perhaps 30 or 40 Guineas, an Object surely beneath the Attention of the Legislature, who have lately given double the Sum to Children not 12 Years old for no other Service than beating a Drum or blowing a Fife.

8. As it has been before observed Letters will probably soon arrive giving an account of the Progress of the Business & the Prospects—the Council have a common Interest with the Assembly to save all unnecessary Expences & advance the general Interests—Can they not engage so much of the Confidence of the House as to be entrusted to recall him or not as Circumstances shall then appear? Or if this cannot be, the Council have no Objection to communicating the Advices received to the Speaker & any other Members who may be convenient, to whose Sentiments the Council will pay a due Regard.

But upon the Measure of recalling Mr. Searle at this Time the Council are unanimously of Opinion it is not adviseable in Point of Policy, eligible in point of Interest, which our Duty to the State requires, or consistent with that due Regard to the Character & Feelings of the Agent which each of us in like Circumstances would expect.*

* See Vol. VIII., pp. 399, 514, 582, 566, 625; also Col. Rec., Vol. XII., pp. 410, 414, 415–418, 419.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, April 6th, 1781.

Sir,

Agreeable to the desire of the Hon^l Council after making necessary inquirys, and Advising with a number of well dispose'd persons on the Subject.—I now make known to your Excellency, for the information of Council,—that a number of Men might be rais'd for a constancy—should Congress require a Guard for this place—This however could not be done without some difficulties attending it,—As many of those men, who would wish to join this Corps, would object to engaging in it for the following reasons,—(unless a pointed contract with those men be made)—Council, they say, should they at any time think proper, might order them to be remov'd to any other part of the State or perhaps to join the Main Army, this they know has been done, in the instance of Capt. Weavers Indep^t Comp^y some years since, those Men were rais'd as a Guard, for this place, to Guard the British Prisoners & publick Stores, but on the removal of those prisoners they were immediately ordered to join the Main Army, & incorporated with the Pennsy^a line. They also say a Company of a similar nature was rais'd by the Town Major, some time since, many of those Men, are not to this day, paid for their services—and unless some mode is adopted for regular pyaments it may be their case (should they engage) also, to be left in the same predicament.

I have thought it necessary to give Council very particular information on this subject, in order that they may be enabled to take steps accordingly.

I understand a large body of the British prisoners, are shortly to be stationed here—should this be the case, more Men will be wanted for Guards, than the number mentioned in my last. I beg leave to lay before the Council a Disposition of the Guards absolutely necessary.—viz.

One Centinel at the powder Magazine, one at the Store (in which powder is also deposited) one at the Goal, and at least four at the Barracks.—Total amount of Centinels, will be seven. Which will require—One Sub., one Serg^t, one Corp^l, & 21 privates daily. So that not less (allowing the men to come on duty every third day) than three Subs. three Serj^ts, three Corp^ls, one Drum, one fife and Seventy two privates (in which I include 6 Non Effectives) will answer the purpose.

Council will likewise see the propriety, should they be call'd upon

for such a Guard, and approve the disposition of it, of appointing some person to take charge of the whole.

I have the Honor to be
with respect & Esteem,
Your Excell^ys most ob^t & very h^l Serv.,
AD^m HUBLEY, J., L^t C^y L^r.

Directed,
(On Publick Service)
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, Presid., &c., Philadelphia.

Extract of a Letter from General Washington to General Wayne, 1781.

Extract of a Letter from His Excelly General Washington.
Dated New Windsor, 8th April, 1781.

The critical situation of our southern affairs, and the reinforcements sent by the Enemy, to that Quarter, urge the necessity of moving as large a proportion of the Pennsa. Line as possible, without a moments loss of time, Indeed I hope before this, by the measures you have taken, all the Impediments to a movement, will have been Obviated.

I am persuaded your utmost, and unremitting exertions, will not be wanting on this and every occasion of serving your Country so essentially—that they may be ever crowned with success, that nothing but propitious events may attend you on the March, & in the Field, is the sincere wish of

Dear Sir,
Your most Ob^t and Hum. Sert.,
G^o WASHINGTON.
(Copy)

Directed,
Genl Wayne.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly,
Monday, 9th April, 1781.

The order of the day was read.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Surveyor General, and the ballots being taken and counted, it appeared that John Lukens, of the City of Philadelphia, was duly elected.

Resolved, That the said John Lukens be, and hereby is appointed Surveyor General of this State.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Secretary of the Land Office; and the ballots being taken and counted, it appeared that David Kennedy was duly elected.

Resolved, That the said David Kennedy be, and hereby is appointed Secretary of the Land Office of this State.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Receiver General of the Land Office; and the ballots being taken and counted, it appeared that Francis Johnston was duly elected.

Resolved, That the said Francis Johnston be, and hereby is appointed Receiver General of the Land Office of this State.

Extract from the Minutes.

SAMUEL STERETT,
Clerk.

Pres. Reed to Abraham Dubois, &c., 1781.

Gentlemen,

Your Letter without Date, but received a few Days ago has been laid before Council. It was our express direction to Mr. Stevenson to refer the Officers who have been Prisoners to a Settlement in Philada., where the Money received in Captivity would be accounted for. Unhappily in this Respect, as well as several others, no Regard has been paid to our Direction; by which our State will suffer heavily by paying twice what we can but illy afford to pay once. In the Case of Capt. Turnbull, whom we have never yet seen, & perhaps may not see on this Account, there is a Depreciation on 600 Specie Dollars allowed, which in all Justice & Reason ought not to have been. We have it much at Heart the Line should be settled with, but not so much as to desire the Settlement hastened to the Prejudice & Injury of the State. With Respect to the Detachment at Fort Pitt we do not think the Auditor should have settled with any Person who did not attend in Person for a Settlement, & so were our Instructions. In the Changes that happen in Armies we cannot tell who of that Detachment at Fort Pitt are there, many may be dead, deserted, &c., an Objection so obvious that we wonder it should escape the Auditors. There is a Justice due the Publick as well as the Soldier, & there should allways be a Guard against Abuses, which are too apt to creep in, in these degenerate Days. If the Books & Certificates are sent to us they may be guarded against in a great Degree, but in future we wish you to consider no one intitled who does not appear in Person, & that you would close the Books finally, in a Week from this Date. We propose to appoint special Auditors at Fort Pitt, as the 8th Regiment is there

in Garrison, where we propose also to settle with the Detachment of Artillery.

I am, with much Esteem,

Gent., Your Obed., H'bble Servt.

Indorsed,

1781, April 9th. To Messrs. Abraham Dubois and William Goforth, Esquire.

Resolutions of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania,

In General Assembly, Tuesday, 10th April, 1781.

Resolved, that the President and Supreme Executive Council of this State be, and they hereby are, authorized and required to procure, on the best terms at which the same may be had, and to lodge in the Treasury of this Commonwealth, so much of the paper money as has been issued in this State in pursuance of the Resolutions of Congress of the 18th March, 1781, and that no more of the said money be hereafter issued.

Resolved, That The President & Council do in like manner procure of the money issued by other States, in pursuance of said Resolutions, so much as may now be due, according to the same Resolution from this Commonwealth to Congress.

Resolved, that the President & Council do in like manner, from time to time, procure of such money so much as may be due to Congress for the Requisitions by them made in their Resolutions of the 16th and 23d of March last, & cause the same to be paid into the continental Treasury at the respective days specified by Congress for that purpose.

Resolved, that if Congress shall prefer receiving the money issued by this Commonwealth to the money issued by other States, in pursuance of the said Resolutions of the 18th of March, in such case the President and Council, during the recess of Assembly, shall be, and they hereby are, impowered and required to adjust with Congress the sum of State money which shall be equivalent therewith, and to cause the same to be paid.

Resolved, that His Excellency The President in Council do, from time to time, issue his Drafts on the Treasury for the several purposes aforesaid.

Extract from the Secret Minutes,

CHARLES STERETT, Clerk.*

Directed,

His Excellency Jos. Reed, Esq., President, &c., of Pennsylvania.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 690.

Resolutions of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly,
Tuesday, 10th April, 1781.

Whereas, the late defection in the Pennsylvania Line* has caused a number of Troops, which composed the same, to be necessarily discharged from the service, by which means a deficiency of about thirteen hundred men arises, exclusive of the two thousand & seven hundred new raising in virtue of the Law passed on the 28d day of December last, directing the Inhabitants of this State to be classed for that purpose: And Whereas, it is found by experience, that the mode of recruiting the Army by means of such classes is not effectual in producing men, as the said Classes generally pay the alternative allowed in money, rather than take the trouble to procure the men: And Whereas, it has been also found of mischievous tendency to have different modes of recruiting in practice at the same time—It appears to this House, from the several Considerations above mentioned, that the most eligible mode of raising the said thirteen hundred Men, as also any greater number that may be found wanting to compleat our Line or Quota of the Federal Army of the United States, will be by recruiting parties under the Rules, Regulations and Orders of the Supreme Executive Council; therefore,

Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be, and they hereby are, requested to enforce the full execution of the Law passed the twenty-third day of December last, entitled "An Act to complete the Quota of the Federal Army assigned to this State," so that such Recruits as are raised by any of the Classes may be joined with all possible expedition to the Corps in which they are to serve; and so that the monies collected from the Classes, which have not supplied Men, may, without loss of time, be applied to the recruiting service.

Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be, and they hereby are, directed to continue the recruiting parties in this State under such rules and regulations as they shall find proper and necessary, until a sufficient number of Recruits shall be raised to compleat the Quota of the Federal Army required by Congress from this Commonwealth.

Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be, and they hereby are, impowered to increase the bounties to be paid to Recruits at the time of inlistment, if they shall think it proper and necessary so to do.

Resolved, that the monies collected from the classes be deemed part of the funds for carrying on the recruiting service.

Resolved, that the Supreme Executive Council be, and they hereby are, impowered to call upon the parties indebted to the Loan Office, by Mortgage and Bonds, for the Principal and Interest now due, or that may become due during the time necessary to continue the

* See Vol. VIII.

recruiting service; and that the monies received or recovered from those debtors be also deemed a part of the Funds destined for the said recruiting service.

Resolved, that the President (or in his Absence The Vice President) in Council be, and he hereby is, impowered to draw on the Treasurer of the State, or the County Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary to carry on the said recruiting service; and if it shall so happen that monies from the funds, assigned as above for this service, are not in the hands of the said State Treasurer or County Treasurers, they are hereby authorized to pay such drafts out of any other unappropriated monies; the same to be replaced as collected from the aforesaid funds.

Resolved, that, if the expences of the recruiting service exceed the funds assigned to pay the same, this House will, at their next Session, provide others to pay the deficiency.

Extract from the Minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esq., President, &c., of Pennsylvania.

Gen. James Potter to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sunbery, April 12th, 1781.

Sir,

I arived at my House on Sunday last and on Monday I cam to this pleace and since, I have maid a visite to difrent parts of the frunteers who I find in great disstress, numbers of them flying for there lives at this Early seasone of the year, the enemy has maid five diffrent strookes on our frunteers since the 22d of March, on the sixth Instant they fiered on an old man, his son and Daughter, the Boy was shott ded and the Indians Imedatly maid a prisner of the young woman, the old man Had a stick in his Hand with which he nobley defended himself against one of the Indiane who had a tomhack and maid the fellow drope his wapon, Col. Kelley with a few of his Nighbours was in a house at a little distance, on hearing the enemy guns go off the Run to the pleace and obledged the enemy to Retreat leving the young womon, there prisner and our brave old Irishman and his stick behind them and all there Blankets, they out Run Col. Kelley and his party and got off as usile.

On Sabathday last the eight Instant, in the evening they came to the House of one Durmes about five miles from this pleace, Immedatly on there entring the House they Shot Dunn and Tooke one Capt* Solomon's a Prisner, there was four weemen and an number of Children in the House, they plunderod the House of every thing that was Vallibel.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 690.

But what is surprising they went off with Captn Solomon and there plunder leving behind the weeman and Children, this hapned lest in the evening, the next day they were persued but not come up with.

Captn Robinson has got forty men enlisted for the war, but many of them are so naked for want of all Kinds of Clothing that they can not do Duty, they have not a Blanket among them all, I know it is not in the power of Council to provide for them at present but I hope they will as soon as possible. There is no appearance of Cumberland Militia Coming to this County as yet, on my Coming to this County, I sent off to hessen there march. I most sincerly Wished for our Assembly to have been with me in my disagreeable Visit along the much disstressed Frunteers, I have not Langugo to express there distresses and therefore will not atemt it.

I have the Honour to be
with the greatest Esteem
your Excellency's most Humble servant,
JAS. POTTER.

P. S. Please to present my Cumplements to the Council.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Gen. Washington to President of Congress, 1781.

(Copy.)

Head qrs. New Windsor, 12th April, 1781.

Sir,

I have been honored with your Excy's letter of the 7th inclosing the copy of a piece of intelligence communicated by Genl Forman. I have yet heard nothing of the kind from New York, but still I cannot undertake to contradict it altogether. I do not however think it probable that a detachment, so large as one ought to be to merit the attention of Sir Henry Clinton himself, can be spared from New York without endangering that post. Though indeed from our present strength and our prospects of encreasing it, a very feeble garrison would suffice to maintain it: For it may not be improper to observe in this place that the embarrassments with which we are surrounded for want of money beggar all description. I very much fear that I shall not be able to get as much provision drawn from the magazines of the several States to the different posts as will keep the men from starving or disbanding, altho' I have made applications to the Executive powers, have addressed the people thro' their Magistrates, and have taken every measure that could be divised to strengthen the hands of the quarter master.

The enemy while they have a superior fleet may take post at a

variety of places on the Delaware and maintain themselves in it while that superiority continues, but if a tolerable share of labor and pains is bestowed upon the works of Mud Island experience has shewn that nothing but a very large force determined upon a serious operation can affect the city of Philadelphia. This I think may be impressed upon the executive of the State with great propriety at this time.

Should a small post be established for the purpose of obstructing commerce and drawing in the supplies of the country, a body of militia from the adjacent parts of Pensylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Jersey which are all interested in preventing the enemy from extending themselves must be called in—your Excellency will be pleased to observe that I advise this measure of necessity not of choice, I look upon calling out militia detrimental in every point of view, but they are the only substitutes for a regular force,

I have the honor to be
with the most perfect respect
your Excy's obedt & hble Servt,
Go WASHINGTON.

Directed,
His Excellency The President of Congress.

Col. Ephraim Blaine to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, 12th Apl, 1781.

Sir,

I have had the perusal of a letter from your Excellency in Council to the Honorable Board of War, and must confess I was astonished at the expressions made use of against me—they are ungenerous and I do not deserve them from the Executive Council of Pennsylvania. You may look upon the information of assistant Commissaries of Purchases in what light you think proper, but those of my acquaintance and appointment are Gentlemen of probity, Character and reputation, and I presume if your Excellency compare them with the different characters of men in general you will find them such as I represent. My Information to the Commander in chief has ever been Impartial and founded upon Just representations, and I shall make it appear from your superintendants returns and the report of Mr. Haselwood, your agent, that I have facts to support every information given had they been three fold.

When the Magazines are nearly exhausted, and it is evident no state have comply'd with the order of Congress, and the state of Pennsylvania which was our princaple dependance for bread notoriously defficient, thousand depending upon me for their daily support, my representations to the General became necessary and an Incumbent duty, and your Knowledge of Military Operations if

impartial must undoubtedly determine in my favour—however I have made them and am Conscious of the Justice of my assertions, and those and every other which I have made shall support.

I remain with all due respect,
your Excellency's most
Obedt Hble. Servt,
EPH. BLAINE, C. G. P.

Directed,
Public.
To his Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of the State of Pennsylvn, Present.

This will certify that on or about the 16th Day of March last I received Orders from William Moore, Esqr, Vice President in Council, to inform Mr. Gustavus Risburg that it would be some time before we should be able to make any purchases to be sent forward, and that all we could do would be to supplie this post for some time, and that the money now in the Treasury would be sent to the diffr Countys to make provisions for a number of Prisoners daily expected into this State, and to supply the different posts of the Pennsylvania Line & that I did acquaint Mr. Gustavus Risburg and Mr. George Morton and also to Isl Morris on his Application of the same.

JOHN HAZELWOOD.

April 11th, 1781.

(A Coppy.)

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled.
April 13th, 1781.

Resolved,

That the Commander in Chief transmit to the Executives of the several States Lists of the Names of all the new Levies belonging to each State respectively, specifying their Times of Service, and the sums due to them, such Lists to be signed by the paymasters of the Regiments in which the said new Levies have served, countersigned by the commanding Officer and approved of by the Brigadier or commanding Officer of the Brigade or Corps. And that it be and hereby is recommended to the said States to cause payment to be made to the said new Levies agreeably to such Lists on account of the United States.

Extract from the minutes,
CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Genl. Anthony Wayne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Phil^a, 13th April, 1781.

Sir,

Inclosed is an extract from a letter of his Excelly. Genl. Washington to me,* by which you'l see his anxiety and wishes for my advance towards the southward with as many of the Penns'a line as possible without one moments delay.—Every Impediment is now removed except money sufficient for the gratuity, bounty, three months pay & the proportion of the Depreciation to the troops of this Line as directed by an Act of Assembly passed during their late session, for which & other purposes bills of Credit to a Considerable amount will be ready for emission by Wednesday, & the Committee of the House appointed for the superintending this business assure me that a sum adequate to the payment of the Detachment, (of which the Inclosed is a return,) will be struck & signed by this day week.

I beg leave to suggest the expediency of paying the Artillery, Second, third, fifth & Sixth Reg^ts first in rotation in order to expedite the advance of the whole to York town,—the Artillery & Second to be paid on Wednesday & Thursday, the third & fifth on Friday & Saturday, &c^a, & to March Immediately to the General rendezvous at York.

As Certificates are given for the balance of Acc^ts it will take but little time to adjust the proportion of pay, &c^a, which for the present, & until the treasury is better supplied, need only extend to the Officers & Soldiers ordered from each corps as ℔ Return, except an allowance of 120 more privates, i. e., 20 to each Regiment which by this time have Certainly joined in addition to those mentioned in the return.

I may assure your Excelly. & Council in Confidence that if I am enabled to take up my line of March *from York town* with the whole Detachment by Monday or Tuesday week, we have the fairest prospect in Conjunction with the troops under the Marquis De la Fayette to give a happy turn to affairs by the Interception of Genl Phillips, pressing for a junction with Lord Cornwallis.

Interim I have the honor
to be your Excellency's
most Ob^t & very Hum^e Ser^t,
ANT^Y WAYNE.

N. B. The return of the Detachment of Artillery will be sent to Council this evening.

Directed,

His Excell'y Jos. Reed, Esqr, Pres^t of Council.

* See page 66.

Pres. Reed to Major Edwards of Penn'a Line 1781.

Sir,

The inclosed note has been several times presented to the Council by whose desire I now acquaint you that Commissioners are appointed in the several Counties to pay the Men the bounties &c. directed that Col. Nicola of this city has the same Powers here, & that it s the desire of Council that the mode of recruiting directed by them & approved by the Commander in chief be observed, as the best security against future complaints. That partial issues from the State store are totally prohibited agreeable to a general request of the principal officer of the line some time ago, & that when any general issues are made it is done by an order in Council only. The giving such orders as the inclosed therefore only tends to interrupt the other Business of the Council & give them unnecessary trouble.

I am Sir,

Your obed. Hble Ser.

J. R.

Indorsed,

April 14th, 1781. To Major Edwards of the P^a Line.

(Copy.)

Gen. Washington to Congress, 1781.

Head Quarters New Windsor, April 14th, 1781.

Sir,

By advices just received from Colonel Brodhead dated at Fort Pitt the 10th, I am informed, there are strong indications from several quarters that hostilities will be committed pretty extensively on the frontiers by the savages at the opening of the campaign—that the troops under his command are very much distressed for want of provisions, that they have been at half allowance of meat ever since the 26th Decr and frequently both before and since without any for several days successively—and that should the Indians be as active and enterprising as is expected the post could not be maintained without magazines of salted provisions.

In pointing out the places of deposit for the supplies of the several States, I directed 2,400 barrels of flour 1,000 barrels of salt meat or salt equivalent to put up that quantity on the spot and 7,000 gallons of spirit to be deposited by the state of Pensylvania at Fort Pitt. If no measures have been taken to carry this requisition into execution I must entreat the attention of Congress to the subject that the state may be urged to immediate compliance and that effectual means

may be adopted to relieve the present distresses and avert the calamities which will be otherwise inevitable.

With the Highest respect &c.

G. WASHINGTON.

Directed,

His Excellency S. Huntington.

Circular,

PRES. OF CONGRESS TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philadelphia, April 15, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed a resolve of Congress of the 13th Instant,* directing the Commander in Chief to transmit to the Executives of the several States, lists of the names of all the new levies belonging to each State respectively, authenticated in the manner specified in the resolve; and recommending it to the said States to cause Payment to be made to the said new Levies agreeable to such Lists, on Account of the United States.

I have the Honor to be with the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant.

SAM. HUNTINGTON, Presid^t.

Directed,

His Excellency, President Reed.

THOMAS NEVILL TO PRES. REED—STATE HOUSE STEEPLE, 1781.

Philadelphia, April 16th, 1781.

May it please the Honourable the President and Council.

Since your Hon^rs requested me to make some calculation for the necessaries wanting, to pull down the woodwork of the steple & lower the walls thereof, but having been laid up with the Pleuresey was not able to waite on your Hon^rs for that purpose, but being somewhat recovered have thought proper to make the following remarks on that Business, and leave them for your Hon^rs consideration, viz.

1st. The form of the roof should be concluded on (which I suppose would be nothing more than a pediment pitch roof & 6 of the old urns by way of decoration.)

2d. Most of the Inclosed catalogue of materials should be provided.

* See page 73.

3d. All that heavi Frame whereon the Bell used to hang should come down without delay which might be done without any materials except a Takle & fall, &c. And would instantly relieve the other parts of the steple of a very unnecessary & great weight.

4th. The principal leake that most effects the State house may be immediately gone about, as the chief thing wanting, for that is shingles & may be done without scaffolding.

I would further remark to your Hon^rs that the wood-work of the steple may be pulled down without much expence of scaffelding, yet no part of the projections &c. can be repaired; or the Roof put on without a scaffold from the Ground, and if your Hon^rs approve of it I shall request a Friend of mine who is going to the Jerseys to morrow (and is well versed in those matters) to procure the catalogue of Poles on the most reasonable terms he can. And I flatter myself that if the Poles are good & straite they may be disposed of when done with, for near if not quite the first cost, as there will be very little waste of those articles, and scarce any abuse of them necessary.

I waite the direction of the Honourable board.

And subscribe my self your most obedient
Humble servant.
THOS. NEVELL.*

Resolutions of Congress, 1781.

By the United States, in Congress Assembled, at Philada., April 16, 1781.

Resolved, That in settling the Accounts of Officers return'd from Captivity, the Auditors consider their Pay to the first of August last, in bills of the old emissions, agreeable to the usual mode of paying the Army; and from the said first day of August till such officers returned from Captivity or rejoin'd their Corps, in Bills of the new Emissions, issued agreeable to the Resolution of the 18th March, 1780.

That subsistance Money be allowed to the said Officers, at the Rate of one sixth of a Dollar per Ration, (in specie) and that the Monies paid to them by the Commissary of Prisoners, pursuant to former Resolutions, be charged as so much advanced.

Resolved, That the States who have not considered their said Officers in Captivity, in settling the Depreciation Accounts of their Lines of the Army receive and adjust their Demands for Depreciation, in the same manner as tho' they had not been in Captivity.

Resolved, That the Demands of Officers retiring from Service, in pursuance of the last reform from the Army, and who were not attached to the Line of any particular State, whether for Pay, Sub-

* See pages 46, 52.

tistance, Forage or Depreciation, be adjusted by the Auditor of the Army, in some of the Departments or Districts. That the Balances respectively due be Certified in Specie Value, and Duplicates be transmitted to the Board of Treasury. That in settling the Depreciation Accounts the Resolutions of Congress of the 28th June last, be considered as the scale.

Resolved, That all Warrants Issued by the Board of War in favour of Officers returned from Captivity, for Specie, contrary to the Tenor of these Resolutions, be Recalled.

Extract from the Minutes.

GEO. BOND, Dep. Sec'y.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA, TO PRES. REED, 1781.

In Council, April 17th, 1781.

Sir,

I have been honoured with your Excellency's Letter, proposing the actual extension of our mutual Boundary. I presume, therefore, that the Propositions contained in the Resolutions of our Assembly of July 4, 1780, which I had the Honour to communicate to your Excellency, have been approved by your State, and that the Boundaries are to be run on the Principles therein proposed. No mode of determining the Extent of the five degrees of Longitude from Delaware River, in the Latitude of Mason's and Dixon's Line having been pointed out by your Excellency, I shall venture to propose that this be determined by Astronomical Observations, to be made at or near the two extremities of the Line, as being, in our Opinion, the most certain & unexceptionable mode of determining that Point, which being fixed, every Thing else will be easy.

Should this mode be approved by your Excellency, we have appointed the Rev. James Madison, as a Commissioner on our Part to execute the Work in the Western Quarter, and the Rev. Robert Andrews to perform the Office at the Eastern end, in Conjunction with the Gentlemen whom you have been pleased to appoint or any others on your Part. To those before named we shall add an Associate each, that the work may not be retarded or frustrated by the sickness of one. We will send to the Westward the most necessary Instruments, which we suppose to be a good Time Piece, Telescopes and a Quadrant, and hope it will be convenient for you to furnish what may be necessary at the Eastern end.

Our Commissioners will be at their Respective Stations at any Time which your Excellency shall think proper to appoint, allowing it to be a month after I shall have received your Pleasure on that Head.

I will observe to your Excellency that the Resolutions of our Assembly, after laying down the Principles on which the Boundaries were to be extended, gave full Powers to the Executive as to Time, Manner and all other Circumstances, so that there will be no Necessity of awaiting their meeting to lay before them the Resolutions of your Council, as desired in your Letter of February 26th.

I have the Honour to be

With the highest Respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient

& most H'ble Servt.,

THO. JEFFERSON.*

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq., Philadelphia.

A. Lochry to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Westmoreland County, April 17th, 1781.

-----May it please your Excellency.

I have the honor (by the opportunity of Col. Proctor) to send my accounts of Lieutenant of this County to the 20th. Ulto. I have likewise transmitted the accounts of Col. Hays and Col. Campbell; I have called on Colonels Cook & Perry for their accounts which they have omitted to render.

I am doubtfull my accounts are not in as good order as they ought to be, but I am in hopes our unhappy and distressed situation will in some measure appologize for their Irregularity.

The Savages have begun their hostilities, since I came from Philadelphia they have struck us in four different places—have taken and killed thirteen persons with a number of horses and other Effects of the Inhabitants; two of the unhappy people were killed one mile from Hannastown.

Our Country is worse depopulated than ever it has been. I have got a few militia to support the Frontiers, but am doubtfull I cannot keep them long on duty for want of Provisions; our situation at present seems very deplorable, and if the savages were acquainted with our Weakness, they may very easily drive the people over the Yohogania.

There is no amunition in the Country but what is public property; when the Hostilities commenced, the people came to me from all Quarters for amunition, and assured me that if I did not supply them out of the public magazine, they would not attempt to stand. Under these Circumstances I gave out a large Quantity, and would be glad to have your Excellencies approbation, as I am certain this

*See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 704.—Also Archives, Vol. VIII., p. 642, &c.

County would have been evacuated had I not have supplied them with that necessary article.

I have built a magazine for the state stores, (in the form of a Block house) that will be defended with a very few men. I have never kept men to guard it as yet, and will be happy to have your Excellencys Orders to keep a Serjeants Guard at our small magazine, the Consequence of moving to the interior parts of the Country would discourage those people on the Frontiers who have so long supported it.

I rest these matters to your Excellencys Consideration and Wisdom, and beg leave to subscribe myself.

Your Excellencys most obedient,

and very humble Servant,

A. LOCHRY.

On Public Service.

Directed

To His Excellency Joseph Reed Esqr President &c., of Pennsylvania.

favr. Colo. Proctor.

Pres. Reed to Col. Miles, 1781.

Sir,

From the advice received of the Embarkation which has taken Place at New York, the Council have concluded to send Capt. Roach to Cape May for Intelligence, if you could order him a Horse for this service it would oblige the Council, & be of publick Benefit.

I am Sir,

Your obed: Hble. Servt.

Indorsed,

April 17 1781.

Pres. Reed to Henry Christ, 1781.

Sir,

We have sent by Col. Butler £2000 State money, for the Purpose of paying off the remaining Bounties, & Gratuities, which we request you to do with such clearness as to prevent future Difficulties, & guard the publick from undue Payment, which in such Cases cannot be rectified. These Men consist of two Classes. First The retained Men at Trenton who are intitled to £9 each—the Men enlisted here or afterwards in the Country who are entitled to the remainder of their Bounty, viz. £6, or £3, according as they had

received before. You will therefore be very particular in your Payments so as to guard against mistake or abuse, & let all the Receipts be duplicated so that in Case of accident there may be no Complaint. You will also wait on the Commissioners of Taxes, & inform them that we never were in such Distress for money, & that it is indispensably necessary that they call on the Collector immediately to pay in the remaining Ballance which is very great. Your Quota of the Monthly Taxes was £612,981, 10, 8, which should have been paid December was a year but of which only 69,004, 12, 4, is paid, leaving a ballance of £543,976 18, 4, except the small sum of 300,000 old Cont. Dollars paid the other Day by Mr. Levan. By Examination of the Books of the Auditors at Trenton, we find there were retained of the 5 & 9, Reg. now incorporated into one, 195. Men, viz. of the 5, 84, & of the 9, 111. There may be some who were not at Trenton, but the Case of these you will particularly enquire into. If any Difficulty arises we can send you the Names of them retained at Trenton. The Inlistments taken here we sent you before, those taken at Reading you must be well acquainted with.

You will send us an acct. of your Proceedings as soon as possible, & retain any Surplus money you may have till farther order.

I am &c.,

Henry Christ Esq.

Indorsed,

April 18, 1781.

Pres. Reed to President of Congress, 1781.

Sir,

In answer to your Excell^y Favour of this morning inclosing Gen Washington's Letter respecting Fort Pitt.* I beg Leave to inform you that proper Measures were taken last Fall to have meat salted at Fort Pitt, Cattle were purchased in the adjoining Counties of Virginia & Salt sent up to Fort Pitt, but some obstruction arose to the Cattle going out of Virginia which was not got over till this Spring, when 28 Head were sent, but in a different Condition than they would have been. Perhaps Col. Broadhead made a Representation to us about the same Time & of the same Nature as that to the Genl upon which every Step in our Power has been taken & we hope by this Time Mr Duncan's Exertions & the Money with which we supplied him have relieved not only the Wants but the apprehensions of the Garrison. As to Flour & Spirits there never has been any Want; in this Respect Col. Broadhead's Representation is too unqualified. I must also beg Leave to remark to your Excell^y that until the last Requisition of Congress Beef was not comprized in the Articles required from this state, Our whole Exertions therefore was made on the other Articles & when we inform your Excell^y that

* See page, 75.

in the Course of a few months £6054 14 1 State Money, when the Purchases could be made with it nearly on a Par with Gold & silver was sent to furnish the supplies of the Garrison & £1000 lately, we presume it will appear that this important Post has not been neglected. Whether these supplies have been furnished or applied with due Œconomy & Care we cannot determine, but the Council have thought it proper to send the inclosed Letter on this Subject for the Information of Congress. The Writer is Auditor of the publick accounts & deemed a Man of Character & Intelligence; we are sorry to add that the Information of the Inhabitants of that Part of the Country correspond in some Degree with several particulars in the Letter.

Your Excellency will be so good as to return the Letter when you have made such Use of it as you shall think proper.

Indorsed,

April 18th, 1781.

PRES. REED TO GOV. LIVINGSTON OF NEW JERSEY, 1781.

Philad., April 18, 1781.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your Favour of the 11t Inst.* received on Sunday last. If the many Instances of Cruelty & Baseness which our Enemies have manifested during the War did not justify the Suspicion, it would be difficult to believe that in these enlightned Times there could be found Men capable of viewing the horrid & detestable Practices of Assassination which disgraced the most barbarous Times, But perhaps the End is deemd sufficient to sanctify the Means. I can have no Doubt but from Gen1 Washington's great Importance to our Cause your Excelly's firm & inflexible Perseverance & constant discouragement of the disaffected & their adherents & Gov. Clinton's activity & Zeal, it would be highly grateful to the Enemy & especially to the Refugee Part of them to have such Personages removed. As to myself, the little Time I am to continue in office with our own Parties which sufficiently weaken us & the Distance of Place make my Exertions of so little Consequence that I heartily wish you had as little to apprehend from their Machinations as I have. Wishing your Excelly very sincerely, Health & a happy Escape from their insidious Designs. I remain

Sir, your obed. & very Hble Serv.

* Not found.

Gen. Wm. Irvine to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I received your Excellency's favour of the 11th instant. I sent the paper to the Commissioners, and have pressed them to be expeditious in collecting the fines from the delinquent Classes, but should the Troops march as soon as expected I fear a sufficiency will not be got in time nor is there a shilling to purchase Beef for the Troops, I have sent out this morning to purchase some on my own Credit and have promised if any is got to see it paid for. The people will not trust the Commissioner an ounce.

I am extremely sorry to give you so much trouble being well convinced of the manner you must be harrassed with such a Variety of business, and complaints, but think it not only necessary, but my duty also in some degree to acquaint you as far as possible how affairs are situated particularly relating to the Troops.

I am informed by an officer from York Town that the Regiment there have received their gratuity. Mr Smith will doubtless inform your Excellency how the people of Westmoreland are drove & distressed by the Indians.

I have the honour to be
with great Respect Sir,
your Excellency's
most obedient
Humble Servant,
WM. IRVINE.

Carlisle, April 18th, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire.

President of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, April 18th, 1781.

Sir,

I am directed by Congress to Transmit your Excellency the inclos'd Copy of a letter from the Commander in Chief.

I have the Honour to be
with esteem & Respect your humble
SAM. HUNTINGTON, Presdt.*

Directed,

His Excellency, President Reed.

* See pages 75 and 81.

Gen. Washington to Pres. of Congress, 1781.

Head Quarters, New Windsor, 18th April, 1781.

Sir,

Our present prospects of supplies in the article of bread are peculiarly bad. From all the information I can collect, the whole quantity of flour we shall be able to command in the States of Jersey and New York will not carry us beyond the beginning of the next month. These States having been for some time past the immediate theatre of the war, are so full of certificates, and coercion, both legislative and military have been so frequently employed, that the people have not only lost all confidence in public credit, but are extremely impatient under any exertions of authority to force their property from them. This is particularly the case in the State of New York, where the dissatisfactions have lately worn a serious and embarrassing aspect.

The States to the southward of Pensylvania, except Delaware, must almost wholly apply their resources to the support of the Southern Army, where a greater force on our part is and must be collecting, in some degree to keep measure with the force the enemy are transferring to that quarter.

Under these circumstances, it is on Pensylvania we must chiefly depend for supplying the wants of this Army in the article of bread.

I am sorry to be obliged to add, that according to the Commissary's reports, we have hitherto received only a small proportion of her quota, and our future expectations so far as may be concluded from the provision already made, are but slender. I pretend not to judge of the ability of this State to contribute to our support, but of this I am certain, that unless she can furnish more ample supplies hereafter than she has done for some time past, the subsistance of this Army will be impracticable.

I thought it my duty to make this representation to Congress, that apprized of our prospects, they may take such steps as appear to them eligible to prevent our experiencing the distress with which we are threatened.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most Obedt Servt,

(Copy) GEORGE WASHINGTON.

P. S. I have since writing the foregoing, heard of between six and seven hundred Barrels of Flour more being upon the communication between this and Pensylvania. That will be equal to about 15 days supply. Ge W'N.

19th. I inclose the Copy of a letter this moment recd from Brigr General Clinton, which as far as it relates to the want of provision, is similar to what I daily receive from other quarters. If any accident happens to Fort Schuyler, it will proceed from want of provi-

sion not of men. For as General Clinton remarks, the levies for the State regiment cannot be drawn together for want of subsistence.

Directed,—His Excellency The President of Congress.

Report of Committee to Congress on Public Debt, 1781.

United States in Congress assembled, April 18th, 1781.

The Committee appointed to estimate and state the amount of the debt due from the United States with the necessary estimates for the current year as near as can be done in order that the same may be laid before the respective legislatures report.

"That they have attended to this business, but from the unsettled condition of the public accounts, they can only give a general view of the public debts.

			Ann. Int. Specie.
By returns made to the board of treasury up to 16th Feb'y, 1781, it appears that from the opening of the loan offices to the 1st of March, 1778, there has been borrowed the sum of 7,313,306 Doll., Int. payable in bills on France.			438,798$\frac{21}{90}$
From 1st March, 1778, to dates of last returns, 53,245,138, valued by the table of depreciation,	4,962,172,		297,730$\frac{29}{90}$
Amount of bills of exchange drawn on Com'rs and Ministers at the Court of France for payment of three years interest,	1,316,394,	6,000,000—360,000	
Do. drawn on ministers at that and other courts for supplies, and to answer pressing emergencies on account of deficiencies in the public treasury,	2,165,578,		
Supplies by them purchased and sent over, for which payment has not yet been made, and of which no exact returns have yet been obtained, together with the expences of Com'rs and Ministers abroad, estimated at,	1,518,028,		
	18,275,478.	Ann. Int.,	1,096,528$\frac{60}{90}$
Deduct for depreciation on money borrowed between 1st Sept., 1777, and 1st March, 1778,	883,914,		
Principal.	17,391,564.		

			Ann. int.,
Brought over,		17,391,564.	1,096,528⅔
Due to the army for pay & subsistance, up to the last of Decr., 1780,		1,000,000,	
Due to the civil officers of Government,		98,927,	
Besides the above there are large debts contracted by the Qr. Mr. and Com'y, for part of which they have settled with the persons who have furnished supplies, and given them certificates bearing interest; the late Qr. Mr. has returned debts settled,	20,758,850,		
Unsettled, excluding those contracted in N. Carolina, S. Carolina and Georgia, estimated at,	27,149,870,		
The present Qr. Mr. has not made returns, but as it is well known that he has not been supplied with money, whatever exertions have been made or supplies furnished in that department, must have been on credit. It is to be presumed that the debts contracted by him up to the 1st January, 1781, amount to,		500,000,	
The Com'y of purchases has made returns of debts due in his department, amounting to,	11,388,903,		
To this is to be added what yet remains of the old currency unredeemed, supposed,	160,000,000,		
	219,297,623.		
To which may be added for Navy debts, & for debts due in the department of the Board of War & Com'y Gen. of Mil. Stores & Clothier Gen.,	10,702,377,		
	230,000,000, at 75 for 1.	3,066,666⅔	
		22,057,157.	
To which, adding the new money issued in lieu of the old money called in & cancelled,		2,000,000,	
Total is,		24,057,157.	

The distress of the army for want of provisions, and their uneasiness & dissatisfaction for want of pay have been so great and so notorious, and the clamours of public creditors so loud that it is become necessary to state the measures which Congress have pursued & the steps they have taken from time to time to support the war, to provide for public exigencies, and to guard against the dangers and embarrassments with which we are now threatened for want of timely supplies of money.

It cannot be forgotten that these United States were plunged into a war and that an army was drawn together before any money was provided or funds established for defraying the expences thereof. Arms, ammunition & implements of war were all to be procured, as well as provisions, subsistance and pay for the troops suddenly called forth to oppose an enemy already in the heart of our country, & in possession of one of our capital towns. In this situation of affairs Congress met in May, 1775. They had no other resource from whence to derive present supplies but that of emitting bills of credit, redeemable at a future day. This was an expedient which was well known, & had often been practised to good effect in the several colonies. Accordingly, on the 22nd of June, 1775, they agreed to emit bills of credit to the amount of two millions, & on the 25 July following encreased the sum to 3 millions dollars, for the redemption of which they pledged the confederated colonies, and directed each colony to provide ways and means to sink its proportion or quota, which was then ascertained in such manner as would be most effectual and best adapted to the condition, circumstances and equal mode of levying taxes in such colony, in four annual payments, the first to be made on or before the last of Nov., 1779, before which time it was hoped the contest might be brought to a conclusion.

On the 29th of November following an estimate having been formed of the public expenses already arisen and which might accrue in the defence of America to the 10th of June, 1776, Congress resolved to emit a further sum of three millions of dollars, to be redeemed as the former, by four annual payments, the first to be made on or before the last day of Nov., 1783. It was at the same time resolved that the proportion or quota of each respective State should be determined according to the number of Inhabitants of all ages, including Negroes and Mulattoes in each Colony and for this purpose it was recommended to the several Assemblies, &c., to ascertain by the most impartial means in their power the number of Inhabitants in each respective Colony, and make returns thereof to Congress as soon as possible.

At this time a hope was still entertained that an accommodation would take place and that hostilities would soon cease. But having received advices in the winter following that Great Britain had contracted for a large body of Hessians and other German mercenaries, which were to be sent over to subdue America, Congress found it necessary to make suitable preparations, which consequently increased

the expences, and therefore on the 17th of February they ordered four millions of dollars to be emitted on the same security as the former sums and on the 9th May following emitted five millions more, on the like security. The powerful fleet & army sent against America in the Summer of 1776, and the professed design of Great Britain to subdue by force or to bring the Colonies to unconditional submission, obliged Congress to declare Independence, and to call in the aid of the Militia, and consequently increase the expense, and therefore on the 22d July they emitted five millions more; but as it was foreseen that such repeated issues of bills of credit would increase the quantity to too great a degree and consequently occasion their depreciation, it was resolved on the 3d Oct. following to borrow 5 millions of dollars, and in Nov. a lottery was set on foot for raising a further sum on loan. As the governments of the several States were not yet sufficiently organized and in vigor, and as the expences of arraying and equipping the militia were great and the resources from commerce cut off, it was not thought proper to proceed to taxation, and as neither loans nor the lottery were sufficiently productive, necessity compelled to further emissions of bills of credit.

By this means the paper currency being multiplied began to depreciate; it was therefore resolved on the 10th of Sept., 1777, to propose an earnest recommendation to the States to proceed to taxation. The invasion of Pennsylvania and the removal of Congress from Philadelphia, prevented this from being done as soon as might have been wished, but on the 22d Nov., 1777, it was recommended to the States to raise by taxes, for the service of the year 1778, the sum of five millions of dollars, and to pay the same into the public in four quarterly payments. Previous to this it had been resolved to borrow larger sums, and to encourage the money holders to lend, it was agreed to pay the interest by bills of Exchange, drawn upon our Commissioners in France. Unfortunately the tax failed and the sums obtained from loans were greatly inadequate to the expenditure, consequently more money was emitted, and notwithstanding the favorable turn in our affairs, in 1778 depreciation increased with a mazing rapidity.

At the close of the year 1778 the sums emitted and borrowed amounted to about one hundred and eight millions. Congress anxious to put a stop to any farther emissions and to provide a fund for redeeming what was issued, called upon the States on the first of Jan'y, 1779, to pay into the continental treasury their respective quotas of 15 millions dollars for the service of that year, and of six millions annually, from and after the year 1779, as a fund for sinking the emissions and loans to the 31st of December, 1778; and on the 21st May following, in addition to the above, the States were called upon to furnish for the service of the year 1779, their respective quotas of 45 millions, the whole to be paid into the continental treasury before the 1st Jan'y, 1780. A Compliance with these requisitions would not only have answered the necessary exi-

gencies of the year, but would have arrested depreciation in its progress. But as these were not complied with in due time and as the demands of the public were pressing and constant, the prospect of future taxes served only as a stimulus to urge those who had in their possession the supplies and necessaries wanted to enhance the price in order to pay their taxes with greater ease, while at the same time the public treasury receiving no recruit from taxes was from time to time replenished with new emissions, and from these causes combined depreciation, instead of receiving a check, proceeded with redoubled vigor. As the failure of the States was attributed to their not having received the requisitions in due time Congress resolved in future to remedy that defect, and therefore early in the fall of 1779, took into consideration the means of providing for the ensuing year, and on the 6th of Oct. accommodating themselves to the depreciation as it then stood, and still flattering themselves that the taxes already called for, if duly collected, would stop it where it was and answer demands on the public till Feb'y following, called upon the States to pay into the public treasury on the first day of Feb'y, 1780, and on the first day of each succeeding month, to the first of October inclusive, their respective quotas of fifteen millions. It should be observed that on the 1st of September, 1779, the sum emitted and in circulation amounted to 159,948,880 dollars, and as there was a general outcry on account of the depreciation and the floods of money emitted, Congress resolved that they would on no account whatever, emit more bills of credit, than to make the whole amount of such bills two hundred millions, and as 40,051,120 dollars remained to compleat the two hundred millions, they, on the 3d of the same month resolved that they would emit such part only of the said 40, 051,120 as should be absolutely necessary for public exigencies, before adequate supplies could be otherwise obtained, relying for such supplies on the exertions of the several States. This was represented to the several States in an address dated the 13th of Sept., and they were earnestly entreated not to leave Congress without supplies, nor to let in that flood of evils which would follow from such a neglect. Notwithstanding this earnest address and representation, Congress were compelled by necessity to issue the remainder of the two hundred millions, and the army was in such extremity for want of provisions that the General was reduced to the sad alternative to suffer it to disband or to collect supplies by military force. He preferred the latter, and the inhabitants of New York & New Jersey, though they felt the injury, saw the necessity and patiently submitted.

To prevent the like evils in future, Congress, on the 25th of Feb'y, 1780, called on the States forthwith to procure their respective quotas of supplies in enumerated articles, for the ensuing campaign, and as by the continual depreciation of the continental currency, the community was suffering great injustice, the public finances were deranged, and the necessary dispositions for the defence of the Country much impeded and perplexed, they on the 18th of March, 1780, recommended that the fifteen million monthly tax should

be continued from October to April, 1781, inclusive, and that 18 of those monthly quotas, namely, from March, 1780, to April, 1781, both inclusive should be applied solely to redeem or sink the old money, which was to be cancelled and burnt as fast as brought in, and in lieu thereof new money was to be emitted, in the proportion of one of the new for 20 of the old, so that when the whole 200 millions was drawn in and cancelled, ten millions new money would be thrown into circulation, of which four-tenths were to have been subject to the order of Congress, and the other six-tenths to belong to the several States. The effects of this resolution, if it had been punctually executed, according to the intention of Congress, would have been 1st, the calling in and cancelling the old money; 2dly, reducing the currency to a more fixed standard; 3dly, supplying the States with money to purchase the supplies required from them by the act of the 25th Feb'y; and 4thly, enabling Congress to pay the army, discharge the principal debts already contracted, and provide for the exigencies of the ensuing campaign. But as this was not done Congress were again driven into temporary expedients. The enemy knew our situation and were exerting their utmost efforts to take advantage of it. The Southern States were invaded; a descent was threatened on New Jersey; the posts on Hudson's river were in danger. In order to put the army in motion, Congress were obliged to raise money by drawing bills on their Ministers abroad, although they had not sufficient assurances that those bills would be honored. On the 19th May Congress called upon the States from New Hampshire to Virginia, both inclusive, to collect and pay into the public treasury, in 30 days, 10 millions continental currency, part of the sums required to be paid the last year. The States in order to comply with this, pressed the collection of taxes, which occasioned such a clamour from those who had furnished supplies on credit, that on the 27th of the same month, Congress recommended to the legislatures of the several States to empower the collectors of continental taxes, due before the first of March, 1780, to receive in payment thereof the notes or certificates which had been given by the quartermaster and Commissary of purchases for such supplies. Untill the opening of this campaign the Army had borne their sufferings with unparalleled patience and perseverance. What pay they had hitherto received had been chiefly in depreciated money. Congress had not been unmindful of their sufferings and faithful services. As early as Sep., 1776, they had resolved to make provision for granting lands in certain proportions to the officers and soldiers who should engage in the service and continue therein to the close of the war, or untill discharged by Congress, and to the representatives of such officers and soldiers as might be slain by the enemy.

On the 15th May, 1778, they resolved, unanimously, that all military officers commissioned by Congress, who then were or thereafter might be in the service of the United States and continue therein during the war, should after the conclusion thereof, receive

annually, for the term of seven years, if they lived so long, one half of the pay then established for such officers, with a proviso that general officers should not receive more than the half pay of a Col., and it was also resolved that non-Commissioned officers and soldiers inlisted for the war, should at the expiration thereof, receive a reward of 80 dollars. On the 17th August, 1779, having prefaced their resolution with a preamble setting forth that the army of the United States of America, by their patriotism, valor and perseverance in defence of the rights and liberties of their Country, were entitled to the gratitude as well as approbation of their citizens, they recommended it to the several States to make such farther provision for the officers and soldiers enlisted for the war to them respectively belonging, and who should continue in service till the establishment of peace, as should be an adequate compensation for the many dangers, losses and hardships they may have suffered in the course of the contest, either by granting to their officers half pay for life, and proper rewards for their Soldiers, or in such other manner as might appear most expedient to the legislatures of the several States. And it was farther recommended to the several states to make such provision for the Widows of such of their officers and such of their Soldiers inlisted for the war as had died or might die in the service as would secure to them the sweets of that liberty for the attainment of which their husbands had nobly laid down their lives.

On the 10th of April, 1780, they resolved that as soon as the state of the public finances would admit they would make good to the line of the army and the independent corps thereof, the deficiency of their original pay, occasioned by the depreciation of the currency, but none were to derive benefit from this resolution except such as had engaged to serve during the war, or for three years, and were then in service or should thereafter engage to serve during the war. And now, on the 13th August, 1780, they resolved that from and after the first of the said month, the army shall receive their pay in the new bills emitted pursuant to the resolution of the 18th March, 1780, and again recommended to such of the States as have not made compensation to their officers and soldiers, agreeably to the resolution of the 17th August, 1779, to do it as soon as possible. At the same time the provision for granting lands was extended to the General officers. And on the 24th of the same month the resolution of the 15th May, 1778, granting half pay for seven years to the officers of the Army who should continue in service to the end of the war, was extended to the widows of such officers as had died or should thereafter die in the service, to commence from the time of such officers death, or if there should be no widow, or in case of her intermarriage that it should go to the orphan children of such officer, and it was recommended to the legislatures of the States to which such officers belonged to make provision for paying the same on account of the United States.

Still the public treasury remained unsupplied, the army continued without pay and oftentimes in great distress for want of pro-

visions. Debts were accumulating and the creditors more and more clamorous: Under these circumstances Congress on the 26th, Augt 1780, earnestly recommended to the several states to take the most speedy & effectual measures in their power for drawing in their respective quotas of the continental bills of credit by taxes or otherwise in order that the new money might be issued and at the same time it was recommended to the states to raise by taxes payable in the said new bills their respective quotas of three million dollars, and to pay the same into the public treasury as soon as possible, the payment to be fully compleated by the last day of December following. From this it was hoped that Congress would draw a supply of money to enable them to pay the army and carry on the war with vigor, to discharge the unfunded debts, and to pay the interest due on loan office certificates. Their expectations were again disappointed. The consequences that ensued from the failure though alarming and painful to recollect were far short of what might have been apprehended. Yet after the mutiny in the Pensylvania and Jersey lines, the requisition of the 15th, Jany. 1781 for 879,342 dollars for the immediate pay of the arrears due to the army has not yet been complied with.

This recapitulation is made, not with a view to criminate but to show that Congress have done every thing in their power to carry on the war, and to prevent the embarrasments under which our affairs now labour.

It now remains to estimate the supplies necessary for the current year and to point out the measures already taken for obtaining those supplies.

Congress by their resolutions of the 3d, & 21st, of October last have resolved that the army for the ensuing campaign shall consist of six logionary corps.

4 Regiments of Artillery, 50 Regiments of Infantry, 1 Regiment of Artificers—Amounting to 35,748, rank and file.

The pay and subsistance, according to the present establishment for one year, amount to,	5,104,885
Provisions for ditto,	4,857,012
Quarter Masters department estimated,	4,000,000
Hospital department,	200,000
Ordnance department,	266,666 $\frac{8}{90}$
Navy department,	400,000
Debts due to the civil officers under Congress,	98,927 $\frac{15}{90}$
Civil list and contingencies for current year,	1,885,000
Arrears due to the Army up to 31st Dec'r, 1780,	1,000,000
Two year interest on certificates payable at the several loan offices,	595,466 $\frac{58}{90}$
Certificates given by Quarter masters and Commissaries, & with Int. estimated at,	1,500,000
No charge is made for Clothing, new arms or ammunition as it is hoped the measures taken for procuring them will be effectual.	
Total,	19,407,457 $\frac{78}{90}$

By the act of the 4th, of november last the States have been called upon to furnish the provision necessary amounting to, 4,357,012

By the same act they are called upon to raise and pay into the continental treasury in four quarterly payments, the first payment to be made 1st June, the sum of, ... 1,642,988

The requisition of 26 August 1780 which has not yet been received is relied on as indispensable. 3,000,000

The old money must be called in and cancelled, untill that is done no regularity can be introduced into the finances, nor any dependance placed on any requisitions made, For as the old currency is daily depreciating and at the same time by laws of many of the States made a Standard by which to value the new money unless it is speedily destroyed it cannot fail to sink the new. It is therefore indispensibly necessary that it be called in without delay, this will give the United States in Congress assembled a command of new money to the amount of, ... 3,200,000

The duties on imports and prizes which from the propriety as well as necessity of the measure, it is not to be doubted but the several States will readily grant on the terms proposed by Congress will, it is presumed, produce in the course of the current year. 500,000

And it is to be presumed that the States have taken measures to comply with the requisitions of January, May, and October 1779, it is hoped they will now see the necessity of carrying those measures into effectual execution or at least take the necessary steps for calling in the Quarter masters and Commys. certificates to the amount of their respective deficiencies which by a return from the board of treasury are equal to, . . 468,201

13,168,201

On the 16 March last the States have been called upon for their respective quotas of 1,500,000 dollars quarterly the 1st payt. to be made 1 June, 3 quarterly payments amount to, . . . 4,500,000

Supposing the foregoing funds productive, still there will be a deficiency to be provided for, amounting to 1,739,256 7/8

19,407,457 7/8

It will moreover be necessary to provide funds for paying the interest of the debts contracted in Europe with a view to this Con-

gress in their requisition of Feby. 1780, among other specific supplies called upon the States of Virginia and Maryland, to furnish a quantity of tobacco which it was expected might have been shipped to France, and been the beginning of a fund for defraying the expences of our ministers at foreign Courts, and paying the interest of the monies borrowed in Europe, But the want of ships last fall and the naval superiority of the enemy in Chesapeak bay this spring, have prevented the public from deriving any advantage from that negociation.

It has been before observed that the debts contracted abroad amount by computation to the sum of 6,000,000 dollars the annual interest of which is 360,000 dollars.

The anuual interest of the money borrowed on certificates previous to the 1st March 1778, and which is to be paid by bills drawn on our minister at the Court of France amounts to,	438,798 $\frac{11}{90}$

The credit and honor of the United States require that a fund should be provided not only for defraying this interest but also for discharging the principal or at least those certificates for the interest of which bills are to be drawn annually on our minister who has no fund to apply to that purpose, and who therefore has to depend on the success of his solicitations as it becomes due.

And what equally concerns the honor of the United States a fund should be provided for defraying the expenses of our ministers abroad. This shows the absolute necessity of the States immediately granting the duties on imposts and prizes as requested by Congress.

Before we conclude it may not be amiss to observe that from the constant depreciation of the currency and the unpunctuality of the States in Complying with the requisitions of Congress the sums when paid in have heretofore been greatly inadequate to the purpose desired.

The above report being twice read and agreed to.

Ordered that copies thereof be transmitted to the several States.

Copy. CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Circular of Congress, 1781.

Circular.

Philadelphia, April 19, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive herewith enclosed an Ordinance for establishing Courts for the Trial of Piracies and Felonies committed upon the high Seas, passed in Conformity to Articles of Confederation.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

Directed,—His Excellency President Reed.

Pres. Reed to Col. Samuel Miles, 1781.

Sir,

Council taking into Consideration the exposed State of the publick Stores in the State of Delaware as represented by the Hon. Board of War this Morning. It has been concluded to vest you with the Authority of this Board to take up so many Shallops & Craft as you shall Judge necessary to execute the Orders you may have received for securing the s^d Stores. And if any Difficulty is made by the Proprietors in letting their Vessels to this Service you may assure them that Council will immediately embargo them so that they cannot leave the Port for any Occasions.

I am, Sir, Your Obed. Hble.

Indorsed,—April 21, 1781.

Board of Admiralty to Council, 1781.

Admiralty Office, 21st April, 1781.

Sir,

The Board of Admiralty have the honour to inform the Supreme executive of the State of Pennsylvania that they have it in contemplation to endeavour to enter Men for the Trumbull frigate to proceed on a cruise immediately after the River service shall have been performed, and to engage them for twelve months, which will not only be a great saving to the public; but we may thereby without being obliged to give extravagant bounties, or have recourse to disagreeable measures, or being subjected to dangerous delays, be enabled as occasion may require to employ a frigate in the River or any other service; and to effect this advantageous purpose the board propose to offer a bounty of twenty state dollars to such seamen as will enter into the sea service for twelve months, exclusive of their monthly wages; and to every landsman that will enter for that time a bounty of ten State dollars, exclusive of their monthly wages; and to each man who will enter on board the Trumbull frigate for the River service only ten state dollars, and for landsmen eight like dollars in full compensation for such service. If men should be inlisted only for three weeks, the board have strong reasons to apprehend that after they are discharged the frigate may lie in the River unemployed the whole summer.

As the Supreme Executive have cheerfully attended to the late application of this board, and manifested a generous disposition to assist them, they think it their duty to communicate to them their intention, hoping it will meet with their approbation.

The Board are with Sentiments of profound respect,

Your Excellency's most

Obedient Humb^l Servants,

FRAS. LEWIS. By order.

Directed,—His Excellency Joseph Read, Esquire.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, April 21st, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have on Hand a Number of Rampart Musketts of which they are making a Distribution among the States liable to be attacked on the Sea board. Five hundred of these are appropriated for Pennsilvania, & will suit for Boats or Forts. If the State will accept them the Honble. Council will please to appoint a Person to receive them from the Commiss^r of Military Stores who will be directed to deliver them.

We have the Honour
to be with great Respect
your very obed^t Servants,
RICHARD PETERS,
By Order.

The Arms are valued & if accepted will be charged to the State at the Valuation.

Directed,

On Public Service,
To His Excellency President Reed.
(War Office.)

Instructions to Captain Isaac Roach, 1781.

Sir,

You will proceed with Expedition to Cape May & there keep a Lookout for the British Fleet expected on the Coast. Should they come into the Capes & by their actions manifest a Design to proceed up the Bay you will immediately send off an Express to inform us of their Situation & Appearances with any other material Intelligence you can collect.—You will also make Inquiry into the Conduct & Circumstances of the Refugee Boats said to be in the River, inquire their Number & Strength with any other particulars which may be of publick Use. You will keep an exact account of your Expences which with an allowance for your Trouble the Council will settle on your Return.

I am Sir,
Your Hble. Ser.
J. R.

Indorsed,—April 22, 1781.

DAVID DUNCAN TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Pittsburg, April 24th, 1781.

Sir,

I have got home a few days ago after a long and Sore Ride. Bought Thirty Beeves, Twenty seven of which is stall fed. I found much Trouble in passing the State Money as I had to go to the south Branch and North River in the Back parts of Virginia before I could get any Cattle at all. On my way home I call'd at Colo. Cooks & presented him with the letter I rec^d from you and sent Mr. Perrys letter to him; I can't Inform you yet what Mr. Perry has on hand, or how far he will Comply with your orders as I havn't seen him myself.

On my Return home I found no whiskey at this place, and was Obliged to buy a small Quantity for an Immediate Supply until I can have the Matter Settl^d with Mr. Perry, and as soon as that is done I will Inform you and send you my Return. I can assure you y^t Nothing can be done here without the ready Money, the public being already so much in Debt in this Depart^mt.

I make no Doubt but you will have an opportunity before long of seeing a Petition that's going Down against Colo. Brodhead & me, wherein we are Charged of being Concerned in buying Manors & Mill-seats, and Speculating on Public Money. These are Charges I am Clear of in every particular, and Deny their having any truth in them, but from what I can learn finds my not getting Money to pay of the public debts is the principal reason of the Petition being sent against me. I am sorry to represent to you that I am now Tyr'd of public service, especially when my Character is at Stake, and when I have Resigned all my estate for the support of the public these two years past, and now to be Censured in this manner by Groundless suspicion In Men whose only Motive is Mercenary Design, (I mean the leaders,) for all I have done both for them and the Country, tho' all I will at present say is, every Man has his enemys and I have mine.

I could wish on the receipt of this the governor & Counsell would appoint some other person for Commissioner in my place in this County, as I do not wish to be the means of any uneasiness in this County, nor serve in the post or station I was thought unworthy off, as you may Rely on it that spite is the principal of the Petitioners' Motive, so hope you will appoint some other in my place, that will please the people in Genl.

Colo. Brodhead is out on a Campaign against the Delaware Indians. I am not Certain of the Number of Men he has with him, some say when he started from Wheeling he had about four Hun-

dred, but no Certainty. We have heard nothing of him since, but expect him here in the Course of six or eight days.

I am with sincerity Y^r Obedient H'ble Servt,

DAVID DUNCAN.

N. B. I will do every thing in my power to supply the Troops untill I have the Honor of receiving your ans^r.

D. D.

Directed,

Publick Service.
His Excellencie Joseph Read, Philadelphia.

PRES. REED TO GENL. WASHINGTON, 1781.

Sir,

I am desired by the Supreme Executive Council to transmit to your Excell^y the inclosed Memorial from the Officers of Col. Proctors Artillery. They importunately press for an Answer but the Council have declined it untill they could be favoured with your Advice & Opinion. The Officers have this Day intimated that if not redress'd they propose to resign, we cannot approve the Intimation & we hope they are not serious in their Intention, but it is probable it may retard their march, for which they are now nearly prepared, Cloathing having been provided for all the Line & pecuniary Demands on the State satisfied, with a Liberality unequalled by any other State in the Union.

We also take this Opp^y to inform your Excell^y that Col. Blaines Representation some Time ago of Orders having been given by the Board to stop Provisions going to the Army was founded in a Mistake—Our steady & invariable Orders to the Superintendent of Purchases being to forward by every Means in his Power the Supplies agreeable to Requisition, nor have these Orders ever intermitted generally. The only Instance was in the Case of the purchasing Agent of this City, who at the Time when the Treasury was exhausted by large Advances to the Officers & Men for Cloathing & other heavy Demands, & the Convention Troops returned to us as 5000 Souls daily expected, was cautioned with Respect to his Contracts least he should promise what our Treasury would not enable us to perform—but the other Purchasers were not interrupted in any Respect.

We have also been favoured thro' Congress with Col. Broadheads Representation to your Excell^y of the State of his Garrison at Fort Pitt—With Respect to Beef your Excell^y must recollect that this was not among the Articles required last Year of this State; proper Measures were however taken to procure it, & Cattle actually purchased

in the adjoining Counties of Virginia, for which Salt was sent up from hence, but some Obstruction was raised to their passing out of the State, which occasioned the Disappointment of the Garrison. We have Reason to think this has been exaggerated, but as soon as it was known to us we provided Money & employed a Person to go up & purchase Cattle wherever they could be found. As to Flour & Whiskey we can assure your Excell^y from the best Authority that there has been no Want of these Articles whenever the Mills could go, & that there is Plenty now & has been for some considerable Time.

It is difficult for your Excell^y to form a competent Judgment of the Difficulties & Embarrassments with which the procuring Supplies is attended. The Confidence of the People in Paper Money is so shaken that the Produce of the Country is furnished to the Commissioners with much Reluctance, & even of this Money we have but a very incompetent Sum when compared with the Amount & Value of the Supplies. Credit may be said to be at an End, the innumerable Certificates granted by the Quarter Master & Commissary Departments & by the Authority of the State having extinguished all Confidence. Under all these Difficulties, & with a sincere desire to serve our Country, we chearfully devote our whole Time & best Services at a great Sacrifice of private Interest. When our well meant Endeavours are successful & we give Satisfaction we are happy, when this otherwise, none can regret it more than we do ourselves, & in such Cases we are necessitated to claim a Portion of the same Candour upon which publick Characters in all Departments, both civil & military have from the peculiar Situation of America been obliged to depend. As your Excell^y by the general Orders quoted in the Address made by the Legislature of New York to their Constituents seems in some Degree apprized of some of our Embarrassments, we are persuaded you will do us the Justice to believe us sincerely & earnestly engaged under many Difficulties & some Opposition to procure every Supply in our Power, & any Insinuations to the Contrary by the Commissaries or their Deputies are equally unjust & injurious—A Remark which has been drawn from us by a hasty Letter of Col. Blaines, couched in Terms which may prejudice but can never serve the publick Business while conducted by Persons Possessing any proportion of that Spirit which has distinguished the people of America in the present Controversy.

With Assurances to your Excell^y of leaving nothing omitted within the Reach of our Abilities to relieve the publick Distresses, & of the most perfect Respect & Esteem,

I have the Honor to be
your Excell^ys most
Obed Hble. Ser.,
JOS. REED.

Indorsed,
April 24, 1781.

Board of Admiralty to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Admiralty Office, April 24th, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have this moment received a Letter from the Board of war of yesterday, inclosing a Resolution of Congress of the same date, copies of which the Board have the honor to inclose to your Excellency.

The Board would inform your Excellency that the Frigate Trumbull has been graved and has taken in her Ballast, but not having more than 30 men engaged, for the purpose of taking in her Guns, Stores, Water, Provisions, &c., with so few hands she cannot be equipped and ready to sail down the River for several days.

As the Object is of the greatest importance and requires an immediate exertion, the Board earnestly request the interposition of the supreme executive of this State in Order to raise immediately about 200 Seamen & marines for the purpose of equipping and manning the said frigate for eight or ten days, that the important purposes of the Board of war may be fully and compleatly executed.

The Board have every reason to confide in the immediate exertions & influence of your Excellency & Council over the Merchants & Masters of Vessels now in Port, and flatter themselves that a moment will not be lost, nor any hesitation respecting coercive measures necessary on so Critical and interesting an Occasion.

With perfect respect & esteem,
we have the Honor to be
your Excellencys
most Obedient and
very Hble Servants,
FRA. LEWIS, by order.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr.

War Office, April 24th, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Board have the honor to inclose you a resolve of Congress which it is their design should be kept secret. The Board are of Opinion that no Considerable quantity of Provisions or other stores can be transported from the Delaware state with any Degree of Safety, unless a frigate or some Vessel of Considerable force should be sent down the River to protect the Navigation. They therefore request the assistance of your Honble Board in carrying into execution the Resolution of Congress which from the information which

has been received from the Commander in Chief will admit of little delay. If it is your opinion that any farther Resolution of Congress is necessary we request that you will inform us.

I have the Honor to be, Gent^n,

your most ob^t ser^t,

Wm GRAYSON, By order.

(Copy.)

Directed,

Honble Board of Admiralty.

By the United States in Congress Assembled, April 24th, 1781.

A letter from General Washington was taken into consideration, whereupon

Resolved,

That the Board of War be, and they are hereby directed to take effectual measures for the removal of all the Public stores, and also all Beef Cattle and Provisions, and Forage, collected or stored from the Peninsula between the Delaware and Chesapeak Bays, and on the Jersey shore adjacent to the Delaware, which may probably fall into the hands of the Enemy on an invasion. That the said Cattle, provisions and forage, be transported to places of security, and valued by proper persons, and certificates given by the Commissary General of purchases to the Owners thereof, signifying quantity, quality and value.

That it be and hereby is recommended to the Executives of New Jersey, Pensylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, to give every assistance in their power to the officers appointed to secure the Cattle, provisions, and forage aforesaid.

GEO. BOND, D^y Sec^y.

Council to Board of Wardens, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The interest of the city and state and the importance of the act entitled "An Act for the better support of Public credit &c., required, that you should immediately put in execution that part of it which becomes your duty. This requires the less hesitation or delay as the Council have already given public notice to the holders of lots within that act, not to manure them but to remove their fences. The Council therefore request your immediate attention to this object.

In Council, Philadelphia April 25, 1781.

Directed,

To the Wardens of the city of Philad^a.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, April 25th, 1781.

Sir,

I do myself the Honour of transmitting your Excellency the annexed extract of a letter from Genl. Washington.

I have the Honour to be, with the highest respect
your Humble Servt.

S. HUNTINGTON.

Extract of a Letter from Gen. Washington to the President of Congress—April 16, 1781.

"I have received Advices through different channels corresponding "with that transmitted Congress by Mr. Foreman. They strongly "assert that a further Detachment is going from New York, and "that it is to be commanded by Gen. Clinton; but they are not "equally positive as to the Destination being for the Delaware.

"In the present State of southern Affairs 'tis perhaps more pro-"bable, that Clinton is going with a Reinforcement to take the "Command there."

Directed, His Excellency, President Reed.

Copy.

Gen. Washington to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Head Quarters, New Windsor, April 25, 1781.

Sir,

Since my letter of the 14th to your Excellency on the subject of an immediate supply of Provision for Fort Pitt. I have received the following intelligence thro' a good channel which makes the measure I then recommended more indispensibly necessary, "Colonel Conolly with his corps to proceed to Quebec as soon as possible to be joined in Canada by Sir John Johnson with a number of Tories and Indians said to amount to three thousand*. This route to be by Buck Island Lake Ontario and Venango. And his object is Fort Pitt and all the adjacent posts. Conolly takes with him a number of Commissions for persons now residing at Pittsburg and several hundred men at that place have agreed to join to make prisoners of Colonel Brodhead and all friends of America. His (Conolly's) great influence in that Country will it is said enable him to prevail upon the Indians and Inhabitants to assist the British in any Measure." The latter part of this Intelligence agrees exactly with a discovery which Col. Brodhead has lately made of a correspondence between persons at Fort Pitt and the Commandant of Detroit, some of whom have been seized by him. I have immediately communicated the above intelligence to Col. Brodhead and have directed him to secure or remove every suspected person in the vicinity of his post.

* "The number must be exaggerated."

The Security of the frontier of the State of Pennsylvania so immediately depends upon the support of Fort Pitt that I think the Executive Council cannot fail upon a representation being made to them of taking Measures to afford the proper succour while the thing is practicable. Upon the first appearance of an enemy the communication between that post and the settlements below will be intirely interrupted.

With the greatest respect, I have the honour to be, &c.

G°. WASHINGTON.

Directed,—Presd^t of Congress.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, April 26, 1781.

Sir,

From the uneffective State of the Invalid Regiment the Prisoners & Stores in Philadelphia are in a dangerous situation for want of Guards & if any removal either of Prisoners or stores should become necessary we have it not in our Power to take the necessary measures for the Purpose from the weakness of the Garrison. We therefore request the Honble Council to call out one hundred Rank & File of the Militia properly officered to do the necessary Duty in the city under the orders of Col. Nicola.

We have the Honour to be, with great Respect,

Your very obed. Servant.

RICHARD PETERS, By order.

Directed,—On Public Service.

His Excellency, President Reed.

(War Office.)

Pres. Reed to Delegates in Congress, 1781.

Gentlemen,

Since our Conference yesterday we have made due Inquiry respecting the purchase of Flour & the Quantities which may be expected. We must acknowledge that from the present state of our Treasury, the Depreciation of Money & the Failure of publick Confidence arising from the Number & Amount of Certificates on the County & other Embarrassments we cannot flatter ourselves with the Hope of completing the Requisition of Congress: We have constantly strained every Nerve to this Purpose & at the last Session of Assembly stated the publick Wants in the fullest & clearest Manner.—We have on the present Occasion given the most decisive Orders for making Purchases of Flour to which we have fixed no other Limits than the want of Ability & the Agents give us Hopes they shall be able to procure considerable Quantities in a few Days. In this Business they are now seriously and earnestly engaged.

The returns of Purchases being made monthly it is impracticable to give any Account of the Purchases of any less intermediate Time

but if the last Return to the 21 April will be acceptable it shall be forwarded.

The Board of Admiralty being anxious to fit out the Frigate Trumbull have requested the Assistance of our Board & as we are fully satisfied of the Importance of the occasion we have among other Steps furnished them with 4000 Dollars—We would wish this in some proper Manner with which we are unacquainted to be carried to the Credit of the State & request your Care therein.

I am Gent. Your Obed. Hbb.

Indorsed,

April 26th, 1781. To Honble the Delegates of Pennsylr in Congress.

Auditors of Accounts to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir

Council having recommended an allowance of £100 10s. State money, to the Agents of Forfeited Estates in Chester County, They will please to inform us, if its meant in addition to the Commission charg'd by those Gentlemen; at the same time, we take the liberty of laying before them, the amount of Sales in the Counties of Philadr, Bucks, Chester, and York, with the expences of each. Mr Turnbull having exibited his accounts for the purchase of Cloathing &c., we beg to be informed if we are to allow him a Commission thereon of 5 ℘ Cent; which charge he also makes on Goods bought by his order, in Boston and Baltimore, exclusive of 5 ℘ Cent, paid to his Agents in those places. Colonel Farmer acting as Commissary of Cloathing has charg'd 22 6 ℘ day State money, his appointment declares, he shall receive as Mr Howell, who preceded him in Office, has been paid—he has also furnish'd, by order of His Excellency the President, Camp Equipage, and Stores to a General Officer, when the Militia were last order'd out, to the amount of £7696 13 1½, of which he has deducted £1465 2 6 to be charg'd, he says, to the General's private Account, we request to know of Council if this charge is conformable to the Nature of their appointments, and to be brought to the debit of the State.

We are with great respect,

Your Excellency's

most Obedt hum. Servts,

JNo SHEE, } Auditors of Accts for the
JACOB MORRIS, } State of Pennsylvr.

Philadr, April 26th, 1781.

as settled	Amount of Sales of Estates real and Personal in the County of Philadr.	£1,137,22279
	Commissions, and expences attending ditto,	6780 14 2

as settled	Amount of ditto in the County of Bucks,	102,196	18	9
	Commissions and expences on ditto,	4,720	15	8
	Amount of ditto in the County of Chester,	128,020	14	7
	Commissions and expences on ditto,	8,991	2	0
as settled	Amount of ditto in the County of York,	62,420	10	0
	Commissions and expences on ditto,	1,950	4	2

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, Pres^t.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United States in Congress assembled,

April 27th, 1781.

A report of the Board of War on the Memorial of the Officers of Col. Baldwin's regiment of Artificers was read, whereupon

Resolved, that it be recommended to the States to which they respectively belong to make up the depreciation of their pay according to the real value of their wages at the time of their establishment to the Officers & men now or late of the Regiment of Artificers commanded by Col. Baldwin.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec.

Nicholas Depui, &c. to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Smithfield, Northampton County, April the 27th, 1781.

Honoured Sir,

We herewith Inclose you a Coppy of Coln^l Butlers orders & the actions of the Enemy seems to Cooperate with the within Directions of Coln^l Butler, which Appears that the Enemy is formable, & is Determin'd to cut off the Inhabitants on the River Delaware, & our Weak situation renders it Impossible to withstand a great Number. The Import of the within Inclos'd we have not made publick, we are of Oppinion that if it was generly known this part of the Cantry would be Emediately Evacuated. Our case is Distressing & unless some Measure is Emediately Adopted to make a formable Resistance we shall be Oblige to move off, for farther particulars we refer you to Captn Sheraiddar, dispatch^d of the like Import is sent off to the Govournour of the Jerseys & if some measure could be addopted to

join our forces with the State of Jersey it might be serviceable to both States, it appears the Enemy intends to strike Both sides of the River.

We are Sir, your very Humble Sarvents,
NICHOLAS DEPUI,
JOHN CHAMBERS, G. L. C.
JACOB STROUD, Lt Coll.

Directed,—On Public Service.
His Excellency Joseph Reed, President, Philadelphia.
☞ Express.

JOHN VAN CAMPEN TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lower Smithfield, April 27, 1781.

Honoured Sir,

Your Excellency will observe by the Letter that accompanies these my few Lines, the Distress of the Inhabitants of this Part of our County; what the Event will be, I confess is out of my power to pretend to say.—This Morning I came down from Colonel Rosecranzes.—The Inhabitants of Jersey have sent for Field Pieces to Sussex; and it is my Opinion if it was possible for this State to furnish us with two Pieces and a few Artillery Men to act in Conjunction with Jersey, it might perhaps be a Mean to defeat the Design of the Enemy.

If our Time is not to short, I am under no Doubt we will have a formidable Army to oppose such effort. I refer your Excellency to the Bearer, Captn Shrawder, in Regard to the Operation of the Ennemy at present. I have the Honour to be

your Excellency's Most obedient hble. Servt,
JOHN VAN CAMPEN.

Directed,—On public Service.
His Excellency Joseph Reed, President, Philadelphia.
☞ Express.

PRES. REED TO BOARD OF ADMIRALTY, 1781

In Council,
Philad^a, April 28th, 1781.

Gentlemen:

Your favour of this date has been duly received and laid before the Council, who will be perfectly satisfied with the execution of the plan therein communicated, and will render any concurrent assistance in their power in order to equip the frigate without delay. I am, Gentlemen with much respect,

Your obedient and very humble servant,
J. REED, President.

Honble. Board of Admiralty of the United States.

Samuel Rea to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Mountbethel, Northampton County, 29 April, 1781.

Dear Sir,

By these I must inform your Excellency of the late alarming Incursions of the Savages on the frontiers, which may be depended upon as Authentic.

The 25th Instant, before light, the Indians Crossed the River Delaware into Jersey, took two prisoners, and at break of day attacted the house of Mr Joseph Jacobs, killed him and two other men, and took his wife Prisoner; they proceeded to Captain Shymers; Some of them got into the house, but the Captain and his family oppcsed them so bravely that they were obliged to retreat without doing any more damage, only taking one of Capt Shymer's Negroes, and Burning a house and Barn. The Captain, with a few men, pursued them to the river, fired upon them, and obliged them to fly and leave two women and the Negroe. The next day they burnt two houses in this County, drove away twenty head of Cattle, and as they were hurrying away they lost a knapsack wherein was a letter from Captain Colwell to Capt. Brant, Communicateing Coll. Butler's order; a Coppy thereof is Inclosed with the last account I have received. By all appearance they Intend a heavy stroke at this time.

Agreeable to your Excellency's direction, I had Called out a Class of Militia from four Battns, which I judged would make up the hundred men, but have found they amount to but about Eighty; and I have now called a class from the other two Battns to march to the frontiers; and In Consequence of the late alarm, Colonel Stroud's whole Battn is ordered out, but there is but a small number gone; therefore I have Called another Battn to their assistance, of which I hope your Excellency will approve, and direct what future Methods shall be taken for defence.

The Ammunition and flints sent last year are so nearly expended by the frequent calls of the Militia, that we will not be able to oppose the Enemy unless we are supplied with a considerable Quantity; therefore I must Earnestly request your Excellency will be pleased to order a sufficient supply of Ammunition and flints, or else we must become an Easy prey to our Enemy. A waggon is on the way for the purpose of bringing Ammunition and flints, and I expect will be in Philadelphia Tuesday 1st May.

I should have given a more full account of the movements of the Enemy had not I understood they were already transmitted to Council.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your Excellency's most

Obedient and most Humble servant,

SAMUEL REA, Lieut. C.

P. S.—Please to send by the Bearer, an account of what Quantity

of ammunition and flints will be sent; and if any Arms can be had they would be of Great service.

Directed,—On Publick service.

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Pr Express, Mr Meddary.

Jacob Stroud to Sam. Rea, 1781.

Fort Penn, 28th April, 1781.

Dear Sir,

We have Just receiv'd Information by Express, that the Enemy have last night taken three men in Minisink, new Jersey, near Delaware; and in Pennsylvania oposite, they have taken Possession of Mr. Wills' Mills, and is Grinding the Farmers' Grain, which by that and different other accounts, seems to confirm our former Information. They have killed and drove of Morgan Desha's horses and Cattle—They bid defiance to all the Strength Jersey and this State can raise. The Militia gather very slow here, which gives us reason to think that, without some assistance, all Minisink must Either be Evacuated or fall an Easy prey to the Enemy. The Enemy lays about Wills' Mills, on both sides of the river. Pray, don't make light of the matter, and send an Express to Council as Quick as Possible, Informing them of the situation of the frontier. Please to send us a supply of flints, Ammunition and Arms, but especially flints and Ammunition, to be hurryed up here with all speed; this late account Confirms to us our former accounts Concerning the Enemy is an undoubted certainty, and we rely upon you not to fail in Sending Immediately to Council. We are, in haste, your Humble Servts.,

JNO. CHAMBERS,
JACOB STROUD.

To Col. Saml. Rea.

P. S.—The account transmitted to you yesterday have been sent to Council; your sending this will Confirm the former.

Pres. of Congress, 1781.

Philadelphia, April 29, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, a Resolve of Congress of the 20th, Instant, recommending to the several States therein named to make good the Depreciation of the monthly Pay to the Officers, & Soldiers of Colonel Moses Hazens Regiment, that are considered

as Part of those States Quotas, in the same Manner they have made good the Depreciation to the Officers & Soldiers in the Battallions belonging to the Line of those States respectively.

I have the Honor to be,

with great Respect Your Excellencys,

most obedient humble Servant,

SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

His Excellency President Reed.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United States in Congress assembled,

April 20th, 1781.

Resolved, That it be and hereby is recommended to the States of Rhode Island, & Providence plantations, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, to make Good the depreciation of the monthly pay of the officers and Soldiers belonging to Col. Moses Hazens regiment that are considered as a part of the quota of the respective States aforesaid in the same manner, they have made good the depreciation to the officers and Soldiers in the batallions belonging to the line of those states respectively.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Secy.

John Arndt to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Near Easton, 29th April, 1781.

Sir,

Major Alexander hath informed me that he's received orders to send off every man of his Regiment fit for duty towards the southward with all convenient speed, and as a part of the men have received the gratuity of £9 allowed by a Resolution of Assembly and the greater part have not, it is more than probable there will be a great uneasiness amongst the Claimants if they are ordered to march without being first paid as their fellows have been.

As there is no money in the Treasury of this County and my order for £500 is already Expended, it is out of my power to Comply with the wishes of the officers to have the old soldiers paid their Gratuities as well as the bounty to the new recruits whose last payment will be due in a few days. As I have oppurtunities of hearing the Language of the soldiers on their disappointments of Receiving their money I plainly see that the Spirit of Mutiny is not intirely Extinguished and further delays might be of disagree-

able consequences if they should be marched off without receiving their bounties & Gratuities.

It will require a sum of at least £500 to discharge the whole, and having no Expectation that the Treas' of this County will be enabled in a considerable time to furnish the sum wanted.

I Humbly submit the matter to your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council what ought to be done in this affair. I am

Sir, your Excellency's
most obedient and
most Humble Servt,
JOHN ARNDT,

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Reed to President of Congress, 1781.

His Excellency the Presid. of Congress.

Sir,

The Operation of a Resolve of the Hon. Body in which you preside dated the 16 Inst. directing the Mode of settling the Accounts of officers who have Prisoners is peculiarly inconvenient to this State & has involved us in some Difficulties in settling the Depreciation Accounts. By the Desire of the Council I am to request that Congress would favour us with an Oppy of confering with a Committee of their Body on the Subject that we may be enabled to form a Plan of settlement with these Gentlemen who are very pressing for an adjustment of their accounts before their Departure.

I am Sir, with great Respect & Regard
Your Excell'y obed. St.
J. R.

Indorsed,
April 30, 1781.

Rev. Sam. Blair to Pres. Reed, 1781.

I am much obliged to your Excellency for the attention you have been pleased to pay my former application, and shall endeavour to supply myself in the mode you have suggested. But your Excellency will be so kind as to recollect that I also mentioned a Servant, and I presume that the objection will not lie against ordering a supply for him, as the private soldiery have been clothed without

distinction, I conceive that it will be more advantageous to the publick service, as well as agreeable to myself, to take my own servant as a Waiter, than to employ an enlisted soldier out of the Line for that purpose and that therefore the state will be willing to clothe him, as that (except the allowance of rations) will be the only expence on his account.

I am with the greatest Respect your Excellency's much obliged and very Humble Servant,

SAM. BLAIR.

April 30th, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency President Reed, Present.

Extract of a Letter from the Commander in Chief to the Board of War, 1781.

Extract of a letter from his Exclly. the Commander in Chief to the Board of War dated Head Quarters, New Windsor, May 1st, 1781.

Gentlemen,

Your favour of the 21st, Ulto. reached me on the 28th, Should there be no naval officers of Captain Willings rank who has a prior right of exchange, I shall be very glad to have his effected, as he has been particularly severely treated by the Enemy, but if Lt. Col. Rogers is a Continental Prisoner of war, I cannot consistently permit him to be exchanged for Capt. Willing solely, without making a precedent of what the Enemy want extremely to establish, that of rating our Captains of the navy as Lt. Colonels of the land forces. If it is Captain Willings turn and the Commissary of Prisoners can make an exchange by composition, I have not the least objection, or if Lt. Col. Rogers should be a State Prisoner of Pennsylvania and the Executive would give him up for the release of Captain Willing, it might be negotiated as a matter not in common course, and our Commissary of Prisoners might be instructed to signify to the British, that it was not done upon the principle of allowing him to be of the rank of a Lt. Colonel.

Indorsed,

May 1st, 1781.

Board of War to Pres Reed, 1781.

War office, May 1st, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have the Honor to lay before Council the Copy of a letter from his Excellency General Washington, suggesting the necessity of laying in a quantity of provisions at Fort Pitt sufficient to subsist the Garrison at that post in case it should be besieged.

As the Board conceive you will view this Matter in the same light with his Excellency, they request you will be pleased to take such measures as you judge most proper for supplying that post while it is yet practicable, it being out of their power to afford any assistance.

I have the honor to be,
with the highest respect,
Y^r Excys. most obedt. Servt.
(By order,)
WILLM. GRAYSON.

His Excellency Presd. Reed.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed. 1781.

Philadelphia, May 1781

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, the Copy of a Resolve of Congress of the 27th, of April,* recommending to the several States to which they belong, to make up the Depreciation of Pay to the Officers and Men now or late of the Regiment of Artificers commanded by Colonel Baldwin.

I have the Honor to be,
with the highest Respect your Excellency's,
most obedient & most humble Servant,
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

His Excellency President Reed.

Isaac Roach to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I Embrace this Opportunity By some Pilots going to Phila. of Informing your Excellency, and the Honb. Council, that none of the Enemies vessels Hath appeard about the Capes Since I have Been here—only one Schooner, Which appeared to have ten or twelve Guns and full of men, She stood Close In shore, a Brest of Mr. Bennets, last Saturday morning, hoist an Inglish Jack, and Bore away for Cape Henlopen, Wind at N. E; In Chase of a Brig bound In, But a Ship appeared at the same Time Standing In, Which occasioned The Enemy to leave of Chase, & stand off to sea. The Ship went In to Whorekill Road, where she lay untill about Eight O'Clock on Sunday Morning when she got under way and Steerd about W. N. W. wind E. N. E. Fresh Brees, untill about 3 O'Clock

* See page 105.

When she took the ground about plum Point Sholes, and I Belive She is lost. If your Excellency should have any Orders to send to me, you may meet with an Opportunity, by Enquireing at Cap. John Stillwells, Below the Draw-bridge.

I am Sir your Excellencys most obedient,

and very Humbl. Servt.

ISAAC. ROACH.

Pitch of Cape May, May 1st, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, Ph:lada.

Pres. Reed to Nicholas Depui, &c., 1781.

To Nicholas Depui, John Chambers, and Jacob Stroud, Esqr.

Gentlemen,

I duly received you Letter of the 27 April, advising of the Irruption of the Indians, & sundry Papers, intimating a much more extensive attack than usual, all which I have laid before the Council who sympathize with you in the Distress of the Country. At the same Time we think from many Circumstances appearing on the Papers, that they do not deserve all the Credit which has been given. We do not apprehend the Enemy will bring Field Pieces into an open Country where they can be of no Use, but on the other Hand must be highly prejudicial. Nor do we think it improbable that the Letter respecting Butler & his Party may have been contrived to Spread a Pannic thro' the Fronteers, & call off the People from their Labour at a buisy Season. But as we are ever anxious to give all the Relief in our Power we have ordered ammunition to be procured immediately, & sent up by Capt. Shrawder. We have also forwarded £1000, in Cash to Mr. Vancampen our Member to be applied in such a Manner as will best relieve the present Emergency which we conceive will be by incouraging Scouting parties rewarding for Scalps & Prisoners, supplying the militia & other Troops on the Fronteers with such Necessaries as cannot be procured in the ordinary Way, & in such other Modes as he in Concert with yourselves shall think most beneficial to the County. We approve of the Militia going out, but must at the same Time observe that they cannot be useful to the County or in Security to themselves if they meet at Taverns in large numbers, & spend their Time in amusement & Frolick as is too often the Case, & still less do we approve the Practice of spending Time in shooting Game, or Matches, which also consume ammunition. If you were sensible of the Difficulty of procuring these Things, I am persuaded you would exert yourself to prevent all unnecessary Wasts. Having done all these we must now advise you what we are persuaded, you will in Experience find necessary for the County, viz. to fill up Shrawders

Company as soon as possible, then you will have a trained and constant Defence int he County to which the militia would gather. For this Purpose we have supplied him with money to pay Bounties, & give every possible Encouragement. If the Enemy should make farther Demonstrations against you we think it would be best to Stockade the most defencible Houses, & collect as many Families as can conveniently reside there, & by all means encourage Scouting Parties. At this Distance, & under present Circumstances, having the Enemy on all Sides of us, we can render you no other assistance than money & ammunition, for other Things & especially for men we must recommend you to your own Exertions, & the Blessing of Providence which will help those who are earnest to help themselves, & which we doubt not you will do.

I remain Gentlemen,

Your Friend & Hbbe. Serv.

Indorsed,

May 1, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Alexander Fowler, &c., 1781.

Gentlemen,

Inclosed you will receive an Appointment of this Board as Auditors to settle the Depreciation Account of the Eighth Reg^t in the Line of this State, & also to pay the Gratuity of £9 each to such of the Men as are enlisted for the War, & the like Sum as a Bounty to any new Recruits who may have been engaged.—We do not expect you will be able to proceed without further Instructions, & the several Laws which have passed respecting the Depreciation, but as the accounts of the Artillery Detachment with you have been settled & Certificates given at the Request of Capt Craig, we have forwarded those Certificates, of which you will pay one-third, & renew them with Certificates, for which we send you Blanks, bearing Int^t. To enable you to do this we have sent you by Christopher Hayes, Esqr, £971 11 9, vis., £809 11 9 to be paid for the one-third Depreciation, & £162 for Gratuity & Bounties. Capt Craig informing us that there are two or three of his men who are entitled to Discharges but will inlist again. We are somewhat apprehensive that this seeming Attention to the Detachment of Artillery may alarm the other Regiment, who are equally deserving; but they may be assured that as soon as the Instructions can be prepared, & the late law printed, we shall not only forward you all necessary Directions for Settlement, but a competent Sum of Money to pay them their Gratuity Bounty & one-third Depreciation, so as to put them on a perfect Equality with the other Troops—we do not imagine this will exceed 2 or 3 Weeks, & as it is impossible to do it sooner we doubt not they will be content. Mr. Hayes has one Act of Assembly & will administer the Oath agreeable to s^d Law.—You will take Receipts on the Back

of the old Certificates & carefully transmit them down here to us. We depend much on your Care & Attention to the Interests of the State as well as the Rights of the Soldiery, & request you to keep regular acc^ts of your Proceedings. For your Trouble Council will make you a suitable Allowance, & you will also render the State an acceptable service.

I am, Gent.,
Your Obed. & very Hble. Ser.

Directed,

Alexander Fowler & William Amberson, Esq^rs, Fort Pitt.

Indorsed,—May 2, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Col. A. Lochrey, 1781.

Philad., May 2, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 17th* ult. has been received & laid before the Council. We are sorry to hear such mournful Accounts from your County, & the more so as other Counties have also felt the Weight of the same Affliction. Having for a Course of Years made every Tryal which we could devise for the Protection of the Frontiers we can add nothing new on this Subject. Surrounded as we are here by the Enemy, and embarrassed with inconcievable Difficulties, we can only supply the County with some Money & Ammunition & recommend to you to have Capt. Stokely's Company raised with all Despatch; his Instructions & Commission were sent you by Mr. Duncan. The Lieut^t of the Company receive £200 State Money for recruiting, which we hope he has employed in that Business.—We in the mean Time ordered the Militia of Cumberland County to march to your Support; as this Order was given Six Weeks ago we presume they must be arrived in the County before this Time.

With Respect to Ammunition we have had the greatest Difficulty to procure it, there not being 1000^lb of Lead in this City. You & the Gentlemen of the County will therefore see the indispensable Necessity of using it with Frugality & preventing all Waste. Council think some Precaution should be taken by taking a Note from every Man for what he receives & for which he should agree to pay the current Price.

With Respect to the Magazine built near your House, Council do by no means approve of it, as they think the collecting all the ammunition at one Place is exposing it to the Enemy, & they do not wish to encourage the erecting Buildings without being previously consulted. Instead, therefore, of keeping the whole ammunition at one Place, we would choose it should be kept at sundry Places. The establishing a Serjeant's Guard therefore appears unnecessary.

* See page 18.

We are sorry that your Accounts have not been completed as the sums of Money sent into your County & unaccounted for have long been a Subject of much Uneasiness.

The Council have furnished Mr. Hayes with a Sum of Money for the present Emergencies of the County, out of which Capt. Stokely may draw what shall be necessary for raising his Company. The Line, we expect, will be run this Spring, which we hope will give considerable Satisfaction to the Country.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,

1781, May 2nd. To Archibald Lochry, Esquire, Lieutenant of the County of Westmorel^d.

COMMISS'ERS OF TAXES OF PHILA. CO. TO PRES. REED, 1781.

To His Excellency the President and the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the Common Wealth of Pennsylvania.

In our last we informed your honourable Board what we had done in complyance with the Law for compleating the Quota of federal army. What recruits have been furnished by the Classes in consequence of it we don't know, as no return of them has been made to us by the Lieutenants. We find that 230,000 Pounds of the fines incurred by delinquent Classes is paid into the hands of the County Treasurer, (chiefly by the City Collectors,) and we presume that considerable Sums have been Collected in the County, tho' not brought into the Treasury. From the reports of Collectors we apprehend the deficiencys in this, as in other Taxes may be occasioned by large Sums being due from the public to many of the Inhabitants that have Certificates for, which will not be received for Taxes, and who cannot other ways command Cash. Others are in low circumstances, and find it very difficult to pay the many Taxes they are call'd upon for. Many others finding the Taxes laid in Continental Money, and that continually lessening in Value, put off payment that they may take full advantage of the depreciation, which in this view it is their Interest to promote. There has also been a difficulty in obtaining proper Collectors, for, altho' we have fined those who have refused to Collect, except in extraordinary Cases, yet some few of the Class Duplicates have been delayed on that account.

We are, Gentlemen, Your most
Obed^t and very Humb^e Serv^ts,

GUNNING BEDFORD,
PRESLEY BLAKISTON.

Philad^a, May 2^d, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, President, &c., &c.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE TO V. P. MOORE, 1781.

Wednesday, May 2, 1781.

Sir,

Unwilling to trespass on your time, I did not express myself so fully on the Subject of our paper Currency as I intended, I must therefore beg leave with all due deference to communicate my further Thoughts on the matter in writing. I have no doubt but it was in Consideration of the Taxes yet outstanding that Council have hitherto forborn to raise the rate of Exchange, and it is certainly attended with difficulty, but this difficulty will not be removed in my opinion by waiting till the first of June, on the contrary there is every reason for Council to come to a speedy determination. There is probably not one fourth of the last 8 monthly Taxes yet paid, and very little will be paid I believe during the Course of the month, the continual expectation of the Exchange being alterd (the necessity of which is apparent to every body) is a powerfull inducement to delay payment, what then must be done on the first of June? Either the remaining Taxes must be reduced to nothing, or we must continue the present rate of Exchange so ruinous to all our Currency, or else Justice must be done between the public and Individuals, so far as the nature of the thing will admit. But if this Justice can be done at any time hereafter, why may it not be done now. I conceive it may be done by a Resolution of Council to the following effect.

That wheras the rate of Exchange at the time the second 8 monthly Taxes began to be levied did not exceed 75, and as there is no reason that any person should be benefitted by delaying payment, Therefore the outstanding Taxes, at whatever time hereafter they may be paid, shall not be paid in specie or new Currency at any easier rate than one 75th part of the sum expressed in the duplicate. Notwithstanding that the Treasurer be directed to Exchange the new money for Continental at the rate of one for 175. If any evil consequence can follow from such a measure I conceive it will only be that the Taxes will be paid in fast, during the present month, in Continental money, which is the very thing we have wished for. All this however I submit to your superior Judgement.

And am, Sir, with great respect & Esteem,

Your most obedient Humble Servt.

DAVd RITTENHOUSE.

Excuse the greatest Haste.

Honble Wm Moore Esqr.

P. S. I have received a letter from Mr Henry at Lancaster mentioning the difficulties the Collectors are under respecting the Maryland Convention money, which people are now very fond of imposing

on them, and desiring me to let him know whether it must be refused, at all events, I beg you will lay the matter before Council, and let me have their opinion in writing, similar applications have been made from several other County Treasures.

D. RITTENHOUSE.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lancaster, May 2nd, 1781.

Sir,

I do myself the Honor to inform your Excellency that I have finished the business at Downingstown and this place. I set out this Afternoon for Carlisle. Mr. Henry informs me the money is not yet come to hand. I have about £3000 of the last £10,000 yet remaining, which will make a beginning at Carlisle. Mr Henry will forward the other sum by express the moment he receives it; If it should not yet be on the way I shall run out before I receive that supply. It will not take more than £12,000 in addition, (I think) to compleat the business. I left £300 at Dowingtown with Mr Moore for paying of the residue of the Gratuity & Bounty Money. Mr Henry does not want any. Carlisle is the only place where any more will be requisite for that purpose.

I have the Honor to be
with the greatest respect,
Your Excellency's Most
Obedt Humble servant.
JNo NICHOLSON.

Directed,

His Exc'y Joseph Reed, Esquire, Presid't Ex. Council.

JOHN THOME TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lebanon, 3d May, 1781.

Sir,

On consulting Majr Grier, the present Commanding officer of the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment stationed at this Place, and having carefully examined the List of the Names of the Noncommissioned officers and Soldiers of the said Regiment who are intitled to Gratuities, I find that it will require the Sum of Twelve hundred Pounds to pay the Gratuities.

The Bounty and Levy Monies for the new Recruits who have already been attested before me, amount to about three hundred Pounds; and the orders I have had of Council on the County Treasurer are only for one thousand Pounds, whereof Col. Humpton drew One hundred Pounds in Consequence of a Resolve of your Honourable Board.

The Bounty Monies I have paid new Recruits who were attested elsewhere, belonging to the Sixth Regiment are considerable, and those who have not yet received their Gratuities being very uneasy and clamorous, and the orders in my Favour not being competent to discharge and pay off the Soldiers; therefore the Bearer Maj^r Paine waits on your Excellency and Council for the sum of Seven hundred Pounds State Money. I have already paid eighty-five Soldiers their Gratuities, and for that Purpose and for paying the new Recruits I have borrowed upwards of one hundred Pounds, besides, advancing one hundred Pounds of my own Money.

If your Excellency and Council do not send me a Sum sufficient to discharge the Bounties and Gratuities, the Consequences I am afraid will not only be attended with Mutiny, but I will be obliged to abandon my House, as the Soldiery have tormented me hourly for upwards of four weeks past.

I have the Honour to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient
& very humble Servt.
JOHN THOME.

Directed.
To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Friday afternoon.

Sir,

I hope I have not misunderstood the Intention of Council. Some of the Collectors were with me on Wednesday Evening to enquire how they were to act on the present occassion, I assure them that they were to go on as heretofore, viz, to receive the Sums Assessed in their Duplicates in Continental Money, but if State money was offered to take it at 75 of the sum Expressed. I did not know that the Resolve of Council was published 'till this minute, to me it appears doubtfull, & I find it is by some understood as a prohibition of the Collectors from receiving the nominal sum in the old money, I hope this is not the case as it would not only be extremely unpopular but does not seem to me warranted by any Law. If in this I am wrong I beg to be better inform'd.

I am, Sir,
with great Respect & Esteem
your most obedient Hum'l Serv't,
DAV'D RITTENHOUSE.

Directed,
To His Excellency the President of the State in Council.

Gen. Washington to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

Head Quarters, New Windsor,
5th May, 1781.

I have been honoured with your excellency's favor of the 14th of April, inclosing a remonstrance of Colonel Proctor and the officers of his Regiment against the promotion of Captain Eustace to a Majority in it, and the late annexation of Captain Simonds—I am not a little surprized to see Field officers, who certainly are acquainted with the principles of promotion which have been understood and practiced upon for more than two years in the line of Artillery and Cavalry, joining their subordinate officers in complaints, which, upon investigation, will be found groundless. But I am happy in addressing myself upon this occasion to your Excellency, who, having been upon the several Committees of arrangments in the year 1778, must reccollect the various modes of promotion which were then talked of, and the reasons which led to the final adoption of the present system at the White plains.

The Error, which Colonel Proctor and his officers is in lies in supposing that their regiment, previous to the arrangment of October the 3d, 1780, belonged to any particular state—It is true Pennsylvania had credit for them as part of her quotas but was not considered as having a right to interpose in making new appointments or promotions after they were annexed to the Continent in 1777.

The resolves of September 16th, 1776, and November 24th, 1778, which they quote, relate merely to the lines of Infantry belonging to the several states, and as an indubitable proof of this, the several States, tho' extreemely tenacious of their rights of making new appointments and confining promotions in their lines of infantry, have never in one single instance, attempted an interference in those of artillery and Cavalry, which have been understood to be lines belonging to the Continent at large.

If your Excellency will be pleased, for your further satisfaction to refer to the resolve of the 24th of November, 1778, founded upon the report of the Committee of arrangment at White plains, you will find throughout the whole of it, a distinction made between the lines of States, which were the Infantry and the lines of Cavalry and Artillery.

The Gentlemen are pleased to observe, that the promotion of Captain Eustice to a Majority in their regiment was partial and the only instance which has happened in the line of Artillery during the war. They will upon reflection find that it is the only instance which could possibly have happened Major Forrest succeeded to the Lieut Colonelcy by the Death of Colonel Strabach and Captain Eustice as eldest Captain in the line of Artillery—To the vacant

majority There have been no other occasions for promotions of Field officers in the line of Artillery or they would have taken place in the same way, upon the same principles. This Rule has been so invariably pursued in the line of Cavalry which is upon the same footing with that of the Artillery, that the officers succeeding to vacancies have come and gone from one extremity of the Continent to the other to take their new Commands.

The annexation of Captain Simonds with his Company and Captain Porter with his to Colonel Proctors regiment was a matter of necessity, and done in consequence of the new arrangment of the army by the resolve of the 3d of October 1780. Those Companies tho' originally raised in Pennsylvania had been annexed to Colonel Lambs Battalion, and Captain Simonds had, in course of promotion succeeded to the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Captain Lee—Lambs regiment had by these means, two Companies more than the arrangement allowed, and Proctors two less, it was certainly then proper to transfer Porter and Simonds to the latter, more especially as their Companies had been as I before mentioned, raised in Pennsylvania. But it could not be supposed that Captain Simonds was to be deprived of his Rank because he was not a Pennsylvanian. The officers of Colonel Lambs Battalian, who are Yorkers might with equal justice say that all those of Connecticut were *thrust* in upon them, (to use the remonstrants own word) when that regiment was allotted to the state of New York.

After the regiments of Cavalry and Artillery had been, by the resolve of the 3d of October last, allotted to particular States, it became a doubt whether the rules of promotion which had before governed could with propriety be longer practiced under. I therefore wrote to Congress on the subject, and that, with several other regulations respecting rank, is now under their consideration, but whatever may be their determination, it cannot affect former promotions.

I cannot conclude this subject without remarking that Colonel Proctor, upon the 9th of April, sent in his resignation to me, alledging that the situation of his private affairs obliged him to quit the service. He need not then upon the 19th have signed a remonstrance and accompanied it with a threat that he would resign if the prayer was not granted.

The representation which Colonel Blaine made to me, of the Council having ordered the State Agent to send no more supplies to the Army, was founded upon a letter which he had received from his Deputy in Philadelphia. That I might not misapprehend a matter which appeared to me of a very singular nature, I call'd upon Colonel Blaine for an official account in writing, with which he furnished me, and which I transmitted to Congress. I also transmitted the accounts respecting Fort Pitt as I received them from Colonel Broadhead, and cannot therefore be answerable for any misrepresentations of his. Now I am upon the subject of provisions, I

beg leave to address myself most seriously to your Excellency and the Council upon our present situation in respect to flour, and to point out the consequences which must ensue if we are not liberally supplied by the State with that article. I must take the liberty of premising that by the information I have received from the Commissary General, there is a great deficiency of the quotas required by the requisitions of 1779 and 1780. There are, by accounts, about two thousand Barrels between this place and Trenton—I do not learn that there are any quantities at the places of deposit within the State. By the transference of so considerable a part of the War to the southward, the supplies of Maryland and Virginia must be turned toward that quarter—Jersey, which has been the principal residence of the army for several Campaigns, has furnished such quantities of Hay and Grain, Forage and often times Meat in the Hour of distress, that we cannot expect a regular supply of the specific articles demanded of her, in addition to what is taken by impress and other means. New York, I may say with truth, hath exhausted her Credit and resources, not that there is no Flour yet remaining, but Government have strained their exertions to that height, that the people have almost been driven to open resistance: Indeed they are under very peculiar circumstances, totally deprived of Commerce and the most valuable part of their State in the hands of the enemy. Had it not been for a most vigorous step which Governor Clinton ventured to take in the fore part of the winter, the army must have disbanded for want of Bread, as our magazines were exhausted, and transportation by land was impracticable, had there been any thing to act upon. He seized several hundred Barrels in the hands of private Merchants which they had purchased up to exchange for other articles. The New England States, as they do not produce Flour, are called upon for none—Our dependance must then be upon Delaware and Pennsylvania—Their supplies are ample and means must be found to draw them out or the army must disband, as there is no other resource. In the present embarrassed state of Finance, little can be expected from the operation of paper money—Specific demands should therefore, in my opinion, be made upon the people, and if they do not comply with them, they cannot complain of compulsory measures. I would not be understood to dictate to your Excellency and the Council the means they ought to pursue, but I think it a duty which I owe the public, and it is a liberty which I daily take with the States, which furnish the different supplies for the army, to call upon them in the most pointed manner for the articles in which they are deficient, and to tell them without reserve what must be the consequences of a non compliance with the requisitions made upon them.

I have the honor to be with Respect and Esteem,
your Excellency's most obedt Servant,
G° WASHINGTON.

P. S., 7th. By letters just received from Brig. General Clinton,

who commands at Albany, I am very apprehensive that the important post of Fort Schuyler will be abandoned for want of provisions. To prevent this if possible, I have sent off every Barrel of Beef in the Magazine, (being only 34) and shall trust to contingencies for a supply. I mention these things to your Excellency to convince you of the necessity of making the exertions I have recommended, and to shew the dreadful consequences which must follow a non compliance. I have written as pressingly to the Eastern States for a supply of Meat as I have to you for that of Flour.

G° WASHINGTON.

Directed,

His Excellency Governor Reed.

JOHN VANCAMPEN TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lower Smithfield, May 5, 1781.

Honoured Sir,

I have this Day duly received your Excellency's kind Letter dated the first inst., with the Money sent to me to be appropriated for the Safety of the distres'd Inhabitants of this County. I do assure you, Sir, nothing shall be wanted on my Part to execute every Matter recommended to me by Council. Unless a Prospect offers of having Services done, I shall not make Use of the Money or any Part thereof.

I am Sir with the greatest Esteem,

your Excellency's

most obedient humble Servt,

JOHN VAN CAMPEN.

COUNCIL TO GEN. WAYNE, 1781.

In Council,

Philadelphia, May 7th, 1781.

Resolved, That General Wayne be requested to furnish this Board with a list of the officers of Artillery going with the detachment to the Southward, under his Command.

Extract from the Minutes.

JAMES TRIMBLE,

for TY. MATLACK, Sec'y.

To General Wayne.

Genl. Wayne to Council, 1781.

7th May, 1781.

There are one Major, three Captains, three Captain Lieuts., & three Lieutenants ordered with the Detachment from the Regiment of Artillery.

ANT'Y WAYNE, B. G.*

N. B. Colo. Forest can furnish the names if necessary.

The Hon'ble Council.

Extracts of a Letter from Genl. Washington to Congress, 1781.

May 8th, 1781.

"Your Excellency will perceive by copies of letters from Gen Heath of the 6th instant, & from Brig. Genl. Clinton of the 30th April & 4 instant, to what an alarming situation we are reduced at these posts, and on the northern frontier. Upon the rec^t of Genl. Clinton's letter of 30 Ult., I, upon the 5th sent off to Albany 3½ barrels of beef) which was every ounce in the Magazine) and 50 barrels of flour. I am now, upon receiving the letter of 4th, sending off 100 out of 131 barrels in the magazine; of meat I have not a barrel to send. The quarter master is unable to transport what is at the distant Magazines, and the states neither do that nor send on beef cattle, agreeably to requisition. I am sorry that I am obliged so often to wound the feelings of Congress with accounts of our distressed situation on the score of provisions, but duty calls upon me to represent what it is not in my power, by my utmost exertions, to prevent. Of this I am certain, that if there is not a very great and sudden change of measures, it will be next to impossible to keep the army together."

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, May 8th, 1781.

Sir,

General Wayne has applied to us for Fifty Head of Cattle, to go with the Detachment to the Southward; on consulting with the Commissary General we find the Cattle cannot be furnished by him; and that the only certain way of procuring them is by purchasing or impressing, as he doubts whether a sufficient number can be had in time from the State Agents. The general has suggested to us the propriety of impowering him to impress Cattle; but as we have no authority for that purpose, we submit to your Honors the Expe-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 719.

diency of giving him that Liberty, in case he shall not be sufficiently supplied by the State Commissaries. This is a Measure extremely disagreeable to us, as we are convinced it must be to you; but the Exigeney of the case is such that we could not avoid mentioning it for your Consideration.

We have the Honour to be,

With the greatest Respect,

Your Excellency's very obed. Servt.,

WILL^m GRAYSON.

By order.

His Excellency, Presid^t Reed.

JOHN BEATTY TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Prince Town, May 8, 1781.

Sir,

The militia of this State requiring for their better government & Regularity in Military Duty the offices of Adjutant & Inspector Generals, & learning that such appointments subsist in the State of Pen^a, I am desired by a Board of Officers to make inquiry & report the Principles upon which they were Instituted, & the particular line of conduct marked out by the Legislature for the due Execution of these offices, as well as the salarys annexed thereto. For this purpose I am now to entreat your Excell^y will direct your Secretary to write me on this Subject, & inclose me (if any there are) such acts of the Councill or Legislature as may have been passed in the Institution & direction of these appointments. I am sorry to give your Excell^y this trouble, but must plead the public good as my apology.

I have the Honour to be with the highest respect

Your Excell^ys most obed^t Hum^e Servt,

JNO. BEATTY.

Mr. Clarkson, the gentlemen who delivers you this letter, will wait on your Excell^y, previous to his leaving the city for an answer.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, President.

Mr. Clarkson.

C. J. MCKEAN TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Sir,

You will receive inclosed herewith the records of the attainders of eight capital offenders, who have received sentence of death in the court of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery held for this city & county, and at a court of Admiralty Sessions for the State of

Pennsylvania held under an Ordinance of Congress. The cases of Thomas McCulley and Isaac Green, jun^r, appear to us to be the most favorable; the former stands convicted of a burglary on presumptive evidence not the most violent; the injury done was but small, to wit., stealing five turkeys & a goose out of the cellar of a mansion house, and he is a young man. The other stands attainted of Treason in virtue of a Proclamation of the Supreme Executive Council founded on the Act for the attainder of divers traitors, &c.; he had been induced to inlist in James's company of Refugee Horse, and deserted from them at the White Plains, delivered up his horse & accoutrements, and procured a Pass from the Adjutant General to return to Chester county, where he formerly resided; this he considered as cancelling his former transgressions, and did not therefore surrender himself. It appears to be rather politic to encourage such desertions in the privates by extending mercy to them. For these reasons we beg leave to recommend the said Thomas McCulley and Isaac Green, jun^r, to Your Excellency and the Councill for pardons on such conditions as you may think most proper.

We are, Sir, with great regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble servants,

THO. McKEAN.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, &c., of the State of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Reed to the Wardens, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Importance & Necessity of redeeming & supporting the public Credit are so obvious that we wish to proceed with all convenient Dispatch to the Sale of the City Lots which are pledged for the Redemption of the Bills of Credit of this State issued on the 29th April, 1780.—But as many Persons have possessed themselves of great Numbers of these Lots without any Title or just Pretence, it will be necessary before any Appropriation can be made for the above Purpose that you should, under the Powers lately given you by Act of Assembly, make Inquiry into the State of those Lots, & open to public Use all such as have been taken up by Individuals on any other Authority than the Law above referred to admits. Besides the Necessity of its being done before we can proceed to any Sale, it is a Duty owing to the poorer Inhabitants of this City to give them the Benefit of the Common agreeable to ancient Stipulation & Usage.

I am, Gen.,

Your Obed. Hbbl.

Directed,

The Wardens of the City of Philad.

Indorsed,—May 8, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Col. Jacob Morgan, Jr., 1781.

Sir,

It is much the Wish of the Council to obtain as perfect a State as possible of the Supplies furnished & which may reasonably be expected by the Time the Assembly meets. You will therefore as soon as possible forward to each Commissioner a Letter requesting the fullest & speediest Information on this Subject. You will please to observe that by the Requisition of Congress dated the 4th Nov^r, 1780, the following articles were required at the several Periods therein ment^d, viz—

[Here we would insert the Resolves 4th Inst, page 359.]

We would particularly wish to have information on the following Particulars.

First, Whether there is a sufficient Quantity of Grain in this State to supply the Demand before the next Harvest.

Secondly, What are the current Prices of Wheat distinguishing the Difference if any between sale in Hard money, New Continental Money or State money properly so called.

Thirdly, What is the State of their Debts respectively.

Fourthly, What Prospects they have of procuring the Supplies with the State money lately issued, dated April 7th, 1781.

Fifthly, What are the Difficulties & obstructions they meet with in completing the Purchases.

I am Sir
your ob^d.

Directed,
Jacob Morgan, Esq., Superintend, &c.

Indorsed,
May 8th, 1781.

Col. Saml. Miles to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a, May 8th, 1781.

Sir,

I had the Honor of receiving your Excellencies letter this morning, inclosing the Petition of Samuel Bautcher, accompanied with his account. Mr Bautcher has misrepresented the fact with respect to me. I have never refused to settle with any of the Waggon masters in his situation; and have settled his pay roll in the manner he has exhibited it, but, as the money for the payment of those teams was, by a Resolution of Council to be advanced by this state on the order of Congress, I told him I could not pay the money untill I received such order which I apply'd for early last fall, & have renewed my application once or twice since, & have not yet obtain'd it.

The money I borrow'd from the state some time ago, was appropriated as far as it went to the payment of the waggons call'd into service by order of the Honble the Council, but as Congress have directed that money to be repaid, instead of Issuing a warrant for the Balance of the Estimate, I am apprehensive they do not mean to enable me to pay those waggons agreeable to the intention & expectation of Council.

I have however regularly settled with all that have apply'd to me for that purpose, but till I obtain money it is impossible for me to pay any of them.

Perhaps the Idea of Congress may be, that the state should pay those waggons in the first instance & make a Charge of it, but this is conjecture only, I have never heard a hint of the kind.

I should be exceedingly glad the people could be paid, and as the waggons were call'd out by order of the Executive powers of the state, and the mode peinted out by that power has not, and I fear from the circumstances already related, will not be comply'd with, would there be any impropriety in Council's taking the matter up, so as to ascertain some mode by which the people may obtain their money?

I hope you will excuse the freedom I have taken & believe me to be

your Excellencies most obed^t
& most Humble serv^t,
SAM^l MILES, D. Q. M. for Penns^a.

Directed,
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr., Presid^t of the state of Pennsylvania.

JOHN HART TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Newtown, May 10th, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency's Letter of the 7th of April last came to Hand the 16th two Days before which I had paid most of the Soldiers here their third Bounty, they being under marching Orders and very importunate, and as Genl Potter had given me his Opinion that it might not be improper so to do—If I had Money. No ill Consequences arose from it, as none of the Men afterwards deserted.—Indeed the greater Part of them had a stronger Tie of Prevention than the Non payment of that Bounty—namely, their arrears of monthly Pay and Depreciation.

Your Excellency desires my Opinion as to the Reasons of the bad Success in recruiting this Regm^t. There may be several, but I believe the principal one is—the Situation of the post in a part of the Country where there are very few Men that will enlist. I

have likewise heard the Officers complain that their allowance of levy money was so small that it did not enable them to travel on the Service; so that if there has been any Want of Exertion in them, it perhaps may be placed to that Account. However the Regiment has increased faster latterly—its number now within my knowledge is about One hundred & forty; but not many of these are new Hands. There have been a Number attested before me who had never been discharged, some of whom claimed a Discharge as their Right, but were willing to re-enlist, and others were willing because their former Enlistments were lost, & to oblige their Officers. I wait the Directions of Council whether on these Re-Inlistment I am to pay the Officers & Sergeants the three Dollars.

There are some Enlistments, taken in Philadelphia, which I have not had, particularly of two Men at work in the Laboratory, who have been up for their second and third Bounties, & returned disappointed; Also some Enlistments taken in Chester County before Thomas Taylor Esqre—but these last men are gone with the Detachment, & I suppose are now out of my Reach. Begging Pardon for the Delay of this.

I remain, Sir,
your Excellency's most obedient
and very humble Servt,
JOHN HART.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqre, President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Reed to Charles Pettit and Clement Biddle, 1781.

May 10, 1781.

To Charles Pettit & Clement Biddle, Esqre.
Gentlemen,

I have thought much and seriously on the present State of our Affairs & of the Proposal made that Council should recommend the passing of the State money as ~~it did~~ before the 1st May. The more I considered it the greater the Difficulties appeared, however I stated it to the Council but they are unanimously against the Proposition which they consider in Effect sanctifying a Depreciation in the Face of an Act of Assembly of which they see no End—& from past Experience they doubt whether any Agreement of this Kind will be respected but for a day or two. It is alledged that such an Agreement was made at the Instance of the Council on the first State Money & immediately violated. A like Agression about 4 months ago fixing the Exchange at 75, but Prices immediately were raised so as to effect a Depreciation severely felt by the laboring Poor & middle Class of People. Such Instances necessarily destroy future

Confidence & a Repetition we fear would be deem'd in the present Case only a palliating Expedient which must in the End increase the Evil. In this Choice of Difficulties therefore we have as the only safe resting Place thought proper to recur to the true Principles of Government which suppose the Legislature to speak the Sense of the People & to make the Laws the rule of our Judgment & Conduct. These we are sworn to execute & while in the Discharge of our Duty are ready to meet any Consequences—being conscious that nothing has been wanting on our Part to prevent the Evils which hang over us.

Having long foreseen that from the Peculiarity of our Situation the Day would come when every good Man would wish the Energy of Government sufficient to supply that Spirit which once animated us in the publick Cause we cannot but regret the Disunion the unkind Strictures and Want of due Respect & Support (not to mention private Aspersions) which has attended this Governm^t & those who administer it & which renders us incapable of affording that Protection which we most sincerely wish it was in our power to do. Having done our own Duty we have nothing to ask but that every Citizen will do his, at the same time it will give us Pleasure if by any judicious Measures which well disposed Citizens may adopt the present Ferment can be appeased & Discontent removed. It is our Duty in an especial Manner to co-operate with the Laws & as the present Assembly is composed principally of Gentlemen who in the general Judgment of publick Affairs differ from us personally we should hope Party Spirit might upon this Occasion be laid aside & all unite to execute what they have enacted. These were the general Sentiments of the Council as expressed this Morning but this Letter not being prepared before they rose I cannot give it an official Signature—Therefore you may make what use of it you think proper. I am only farther to observe that should any Disorder unhappily ensue every Person may depend upon the Exertion of such Authority as the Laws & Magistracy can give & which therefore he will support & inforce.

I am Gents
Your Obed. Hble Serv.

Pres. Reed to Minister of France, 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honour to inclose your Excell^y the Resolve of Council passed on M. La Touches Application—the Constable will wait on your Excell^y & Mons. La Touch for your Commands.

I have the Honour to be
[your Excell^y Obed. Hbbl. Servt.*

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 728.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Carlisle,
May 11, 1781.

Sir,

After compleating the business at Downings and Lancaster, there yet remained about three thousand pounds, with that sum I sat out and arrived here the 3d Instant, where after paying it out, I have remained without business ever since, anxiously expecting a supply of cash every hour. I am very much afraid all has not gone right. Certainly if he had not been robbed by the way, or went off himself with the money, he must have been here before now. To go after it myself instead of expediting, would retard the business, should he come in my absence. I have sent over to York Town on a bare possibility that it might have gone there thro' mistake.

I do not know what I can do, but wait here untill it comes. The troops, I believe, were it required could not be marched to York Town, untill they receive their proportion of their depreciation.

I have the Honour to be
with due respect Sir,
your Excellency's Most Obd't
very Humble servant
JNO. NICHOLSON.

Directed,
His Excell'y Joseph Reed, Esqr., president.

A PROCLAMATION, 1781.

By His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esq., President, and the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the General Assembly of this State, at their Session reciting, "that it was not to be expected, during the present War "with *Great-Britain*, that sufficient Quantities of Gold and Silver "Money could be procured or retained in this State, for procuring "and providing sufficient Supplies of Provisions and other Articles "for the Support of the Army, and the Purposes of private "Dealings," did direct an Emission of *Five Hundred Thousand Pounds* in Bills of Credit, redeemable with the many and large Arrearages due to the State for Lands heretofore granted within this Commonwealth: And Whereas, by another Act, directing the Payment of One Third of the Depreciation to the Officers and Soldiers of the *Pennsylvania* Line. *One Hundred and Thirty Thousand Pounds* of the said Money has been emitted; and by the Act first mentioned "every Person refusing the said Bills of "Credit, or selling, giving or receiving the same, at a less Rate

"than Gold and Silver, are made liable to Prosecution in the Courts "of Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, or, if under *Five Pounds*, be-"fore a Justice, and on Conviction to forfeit the Value of the Goods "or Articles in Question:" And Whereas it is not only an essential, but the indispensible Duty of all Persons in a well regulated Government, to make the Laws of the Country the Rules of their Conduct, seeking, by legal and peaceable Modes, an Alteration of any Laws which they apprehend to be grievous or impolitic. Upon a due Consideration therefore of the above Laws, the special Obligation upon us who are sworn faithfully to execute them, the great Difficulties which will result to the Well-affected, to the industrious Poor who have received this Money in Exchange for the old Continental Money, and to those who have sold their Merchandise or Produce to the public Commissioners, if the said Bills of Credit should not find a free Circulation, We Do most earnestly recommend to all the Citizens of this State, and especially to Landlords, and those engaged in Trade and Dealing of every Kind, to receive the said Money agreeable to Law; and for their Encouragement herein, we do assure such Persons, that no more of the said Money shall be issued until the Meeting of the Assembly, when it will be in an especial Manner recommended to them to secure the Possessors thereof from any possible Loss;—and also informing them, that by Letters received from the Country, it is the Determination of the Inhabitants to support the full Execution of the Law upon this Subject, they appearing fully sensible of the Necessity of continuing the Money undepreciated, and resolving to use their utmost Efforts to this Purpose. And we do in like Manner recommend to all Persons, and especially to the meritorious Militia both Officers and Privates, not to be led into Tumults and Outrages, which involve innocent Families in Distress, sully the Dignity of any Cause, and will be turned by their Enemies to the Prejudice of that necessary and honourable Service, but to wait with Patience the Meeting of their Representatives, who alone can afford competent Relief under present Difficulties. We likewise enjoin upon all Magistrates, Sheriffs and Constables, to use their utmost Influence and Authority to guard against and suppress any Irregularities or Disorders, which are inconsistent with the Peace and good Order of Government; and all other Officers, civil and military, and all well-disposed Citizens are required to be aiding and assisting them therein.

GIVEN, by Order of the Council, under the Hand of His Excellency JOSEPH REED, *Esquire, President, and the Seal of the State, at* Philadelphia, *this Eleventh Day of* May, *in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty one.*

JOSEPH REED, President.

Attest. T. MATLACK, *Secretary*,

GOD Save the COMMONWEALTH.

JOHN HAZELWOOD TO PRES. REED, 1781.

To the Honble Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen:

Having the honour of your appointment to the office of receiver of the flour allotted for every exporter of the Same for the use of the Army, do find in the executing of the Law, such abuses in regard to the Money from the daily advanced prices imposed on me for Flour & other articles that are so much wanted for the immediate use of the Army. I have used every endeavour to keep the prices Low, but find it is impossible to obtain any more without giving such prices that I shall be ashamed to charge. I have not been able to purchase Flour, or any other article, for paper Money this six or seven days past. As soon as I found there was no prospect of obtaining Flour for paper Currency, I laid a note on the Coffe-house books informing all Owners & Masters of Vessels, of the immediate & pressing Necessity for a large quantity of Flour for the use of the Army; & that they could not obtain a Certificate to the Naval Office without delivering to me the quantity allotted for each Vessel by Law. As I am apprehensive, from the Current reports, that the tender of all flour to me for the Quota of such Vessels will be at an advanced price, agreeable to the reported Exchange of five or six for one, that I shall be at a loss to know how to act; Therefore pray your honours will devise some mode for my Government. In the mean time, I have the honour to be your Honours'

Most Ob^t Servt,

JOHN HAZELWOOD.

Philad^a, May 11th, 1781.

Directed,

To His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqre, President of the Executive Council of Pennsylv^a.

PRES. REED TO HENRY CHRIST, &c., 1781.

Gentlemen:

Mr Sherman having been detained at Easton in a very extraordinary Manner, for which we cannot account, we request you would proceed in the Payment of the One third of the Depreciation, agreeable to the Act of Assembly herewith sent. We are sorry to find that in giving the Certificates of Depreciation, you deviated from our Instructions, having, as we are informed, given them to Persons who resigned & quitted the Service before the Act of Assembly passed. On the present Occasion, we entreat you will conform

strictly to the Law, paying only those whose Names are inserted in the List of the 5th Regiment, also inclosed.—You will carefully distinguish between the old Certificates, & the new bearing Interest, or some of the Soldiers who have already received one third may apply again—You will, therefore, in the Prosecution of the Business, call for the original Certificate, & pay one third thereon, for which you will take a Receipt on the Back of the Certificate; then compute the remaining two thirds, & give one of the new Certificates. In this Case, you will only pay the one third, or renew the Certificate to the Officer or Soldier himself, no Assignee or retired Officer, or other Person not in actual Service, being by the Act of Assembly, entitled to this Money, or any part of it.—The taken up Certificates you will carefully forward to us, with an accurate Account of the new Certificates granted, returning the Names, Sums & Dates.—In the new Certtficates you will not divide the Sums, but include all in one Certificate. When this Service is done, the whole Audit is to to be closed; you will return all the Papers to us, & we will make you a proper Compensation for your Trouble.

I am, Gent.,

Your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

400 new Certificates are sent.—The Money was sent to Mr Haller by Mm Biddle.

Henry Christ & Henry Haller, Esqrs. (At Reading.)

Indorsed,

1781, May 12.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United States in Congress assembled.

May 14th, 1781.

Resolved,

That it be earnestly recommended to the Executive Authority in the several States, from New Hampshire to Pennsylvania inclusive, to forward on to such place as the quarter master general shall direct, at the expence of the respective States, in the first instance, all such supplies of provisions as they have been called upon to furnish by the resolution of Congress of the 4th of November last; and that all such necessary expence as any of the said States are at in transporting the provision aforesaid, shall be placed to the credit of the States respectively.

Extract from the Minutes,

GEO. BOND, Dp'y Sec'y.

Indorsed,

1781, May 14th. Resolve of Congress recom'g to the several states to forward their quotas of supplies.

Pres. Reed to John Agnew, 1781.

Sir,

Your letter of the 8 Inst., has been received & laid before Council. We are much dissatisfied with Major Talbert's conduct, & especially as it is not the first Instance of such a Breach of Trust in Money intrusted to Officers, which would be derogatory to the Character of any Gentleman, but particularly in an Officer, whose Honour should be unspotted. It is our Desire that you immediately commence a Suit against him, unless he repays it without Delay. The shameful Depreciation which had taken Place here on the old Continental Money, & which was dragging our State Money with it, could no longer pass unnoticed by the Council, whose Reasons I presume you have seen. Many more might have been added, but if the Assembly expect the Service of Men of Honesty & Virtue, they must enact different Laws or disseminate Virtue, publick Spirit & Honesty in much larger Portions among the People than they are at present. I send you inclosed a Proclamation,* to which we shall most religiously adhere, being fully convinced that if we had not given the Alarm the new State Money would have followed the Continental, & we must have had another 18 March Scheme or given a premium on Villainy which no Country ever gave upon Honesty. Having sent up Money to Mr. Nicholson with orders to assist you with a Part, Your Difficulties about old Continental will cease; should he have left Carlisle you can send after him to York Town, from whence he can supply you with any small sum. What old Continental you have got you will return to the Treasurer. We have much to lament the Decay of publick Spirit, the Disaffection and Avarice which prevails thro' the Country, which has kept back the Taxes & brought us into our present Difficulties. I wish I could, with Justice, except your County in the Detail, but if you will look into the State of the public Accounts you will see a Deficiency which every good man will deplore. Only half the Taxes of the State collected for 3 Years past. Your County £78883 4. 11. of the 5 & 45 Million Taxes, & all the Monthly Taxes unpaid, except £7500, not ¼ of the whole yet paid. Surely the Assembly must lay Taxes very ignorantly or they are badly collected. What Governm^t can be kept up under such Deficiencies.

We entreat you to represent these things to the Gentlemen of your County—support, animate & assist the Commissioners. We look forward with great apprehension to the Consequences, if our Publick Affairs are not conducted with more Vigor & Spirit. You may remember these Things were all represented last Fall, but with what little Success as Things have turn'd out. Taxes must be paid or the Army will disband & Governm^t dissolve, the well earn'd Fruits of so much Blood & Treasure eminently endangered.

I am, Sir, Your Friend & very H'bble Servt.

Indorsed, May 15, '81.

* Dated May 11, 1781. See page 131.

Pres. Reed to John Arndt, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 12th Inst. with the Inlistments came safely to Hand & Council are much pleased with the Regularity & Method you have shewn in conducting this Business, We have not had Time to examine them but as soon as our Auditors arrive you will hear farther. We do not expect much recruiting in our present Circumstances but would have you attest such as may offer. The present state of our money scarcely admits of saying any thing certain thereupon, but that we will certainly reimburse what Expenses may occur & as Continental money will not be receiveable after the 1st June for any publick Dues whatever the Difficulty you mention will exist. We should be glad to know how many men are left behind & request you to call upon the issuing Commissary for a Return of his Issues which you will forward to us in your next Letter.

I am with much esteem Sir

your Friend & very Hble Serv.,

J. R.

Directed,

John Arndt, Esqr, near Easton.

Indorsed,—May 15th, 1781.

Wm. McCalla to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Bucks County, May 15th, 1781,

To the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pensylvania.

Gentlemen,

I am Sorrey to enform your Honours that the great Difficulty that I Labour Under in respect of making Purchases for the Suply of the army is On Account of the Rappid Depreciation that Our money hath Got, I Can purchas Flour for Twenty Two Shilling & Six pence ℔ Cwt. hard money or Five times that Sum State money, the millers in General is supplyed with hard money From the Merchants that I need not Pretend to do any thing but at Tennor of the Law & that I Doubt will be attended with bad success. Every thing thats to be purchased is Five times the sum that hard money would be and then the people not free in Taking of it.

I am Gentlemen with due Respect

your Honours most Obdt & very Humb. servt.

W. McCALLA, C. P. B. C.

Indorsed,

1781, May 17th. From Wm. McCalla, Com'r of Pur's for Bucks County.

Pres. Reed to Brig. Gen. Clarke, 1781.

Sir,

I received your Letter of the 23d March* a considerable Time after its Date.—The Enterprize you refer to has never been officially communicated to us, but from common Report we learn that an Expedition under your Command is destined ag^t Detroit. We are very sensible of its Importance to this State as well as Virginia, & there is no Gentleman in whose Abilities & good Conduct we have more Confidence on such an Occasion. After this it seems unnecessary to add that it will give us great Satisfaction if the Inhabitants of this State cheerfully concur in it, & we authorize you to declare that so far from giving Offence to their Government we shall consider their Service with you as highly meritorious. At the same Time we must add that from the exhausted State of our Treasury—from the great Demands made upon us by the Congress & Gen. Washington, & other Contingencies, we are in no Condition to answer any Demands of a pecuniary kind, & therefore do not mean by any Thing we have said to raise an Expectation which we cannot answer.—We have above two Months ago wrote to Col. Broadhead, most earnestly requesting him to forward your Views, informing him that they are highly approved by us—we shall be most concerned if we should be disappointed in this Respect. We have had a Correspondence with Govr Jefferson on the Subject, & explained our Sentiments to him very fully. We have also sent forward by our Member from Westmoreland Encouragement to the People there to co-operate with you in all Respects, & hope it will be attended with good Effect.

Wishing you Success equal to your Merit & good Intentions, I remain,

Sir your Obed. & very
Hbbl. Serv.

Directed,
Brig. Gen. Clarke.

Indorsed,
1781, May 15th, To Brigadier General Clarke, Westmoreland County.

Gen. Wayne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, 16th May, 1781.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of Inclosing a Copy of an application to Mr. Henry for necessaries wanted for Col^o Moylan's Dragoons, together with his answer,† by which your Excellency & the Honor-

* See page 23. † See next page.

able Council will see the Impracticability of his accomplishing this Essential business without your Concurrance in the application of some part of the public money of this State now in his hands.

Will your Excellency & Council be so Obliging as to give him the necessary Orders on an occasion that may be productive of very happy Consequences.

I am next to Inform Council that Cattle are wanted, & may be procured to serve the Detachment until we arrive in Virginia, provided the Contractors of Lancaster & York Counties had orders for the purpose.

I wish if possible to receive about *sixty head* by next Monday or Tuesday, at which period the fifth Regiment will reach Yorktown, the auditor having arrived at Reading on *Sunday* for the purpose of settling the Depreciation, & will finish about Saturday & in order that no time may be lost, I will endeavour to have every thing in perfect readiness to take up our line of March from the General rendezvous Immediately after their arrival.

Interim I am with much Esteem your Excellency's

most Obe^t Hum^l Ser^t

ANT'Y WAYNE.

17th, N. B. Before this was dispatched, I rec^d letters from the board of war, the Govr of Virginia, & the Marquis Lafayette of the most alarming nature, & pressing for the advance of the troops under my Command with all possible expedition.

I have therefore directed Mr Henry to begin his work & shall call upon the purchaseing Commissary for some Cattle in full confidence that council will adopt the measure & make due allowance for a Conduct only warranted by necessity & the Critical situation of our southern affairs.

ANT'Y WAYNE.

Directed,

His Excellency, Jos. Reed, Pres^t Penns^a.

Anth'y Wayne to Wm. Henry, Esq., 1781.

Lancaster, 16th May, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Your known attachment to the American cause, and the readiness with which you have on all occasions exerted yourself to promote the true interest of your Country, leaves no room to doubt but that every thing in your power will be done for the immediate equipment of the dragoons belonging to this state.

I have therefore called for the inclosed return of necessaries actualy wanting for fitting out Sixty Horse of Colo. Moylan's regiment whose services to the southward is of the last importance.

I wish to have the Cavalry in readiness to take up their line of march in the course of two weeks if possible.

Interim I am your most obt hum. Servr,

ANT'Y WAYNE.

(Copy.)

Directed

Wm. Henry, Esqr, Lancaster.

Wm. Henry to Gen. Wayne, 1781.

Lancaster, May the 16th, 1781.

Sir,

I am honoured with yours of this day. It would give me real pleasure to have it in my power to equip the Sixty Light Dragoons with the Articles mentioned in Major Fontleroy's Return, but my Situation with Respect to Business done for the public is not the most agreeable. I have advanced a large Sum of Money belonging to Pennsylvania for the United States and do not know when I can be repaid, it is true I have some Leather in hand belonging to the United States perhaps sufficient to furnish Leather Accoutrements for Sixty Dragoons and that is all. If his Excellency the president in Council would give Orders for equipping the Dragoons before mentioned, I think it might be done in Two or Three Weeks and the Accounts may be kept without throwing the State into any Confusion in their Settlement with Congress. The Value of Leather made Use of may be passed to the Credit of the United States and the Workmanship be charged.

I am Sir

your most obedient

& humble Servant,

WILLIAM HENRY.

Directed,

His Excellency, Brigadier General Wayne.

Commissioners of Taxes Phila. Co., to Council, 1781.

To His Excellency the President, and the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Commissioners of Taxes for the City and County of Phila- have received your Letter of the 14th Inst. and are not a little surprised at its contents.

We did not intend by any thing we wrote to your honourable Board to appologize for our non-execution of the Law for compleating the Quota of the Federal Army, as we did then and do now

suppose we have done every thing in our power to forward that important business.

We were led to believe from the Councils publication of the 23d March last, that the Justices of the Peace, and Lieutenants were to make returns to this board of the number of recruits furnished by the different Classes otherways we should not have mentioned that such return had not been made, nor was it possible for us to make the return expected by Council, not having received (nor could we oblige any body to furnish us with) proper materials for that purpose.

The occasions of delay mentioned in our Letter to the Honourable Council were such as we apprehended had a considerable effect, and were such as was not in our power to prevent, except that of the Collectors which we did as soon as possible by appointing others, on which we did not mean to lay any particular stress, so far from it that we only say, some few of the Duplicates were delayed on that account.

Inclosed are a List of those Persons who were fined for not collecting the Class Tax.

It is probable many of our present difficulties may be ascribed to a neglect in collecting the public Taxes, but in the present case altho' the number of Men may not have been raised in this City and County as we could have wished, We have reason to believe that a full proportion with the other Counties of the fines from delinquent Classes have been paid to the County Treasurer, who informs us he has received of the Class Tax, six hundred thousand Pounds, which he has deposited in the State Treasury.

We can have no possible objection to your Honourable Board doing their duty, but if the Council mean by that expression their intention to exact a fine from us for a supposed neglect of ours, we do think it extreemly hard, as we are concious of a faithfull discharge of the duties required of us to the best of our abilities.

We see with concern that the fines imposed by Law on delinquent Classes as levied on this City and County will not now be adequate to the expectation of the Legislator when the Law was past, but we presume any deficiency herein will not be ascribed to us by Council as from their instructions, and the printed notices for the Classes sent to us we were led to levy the fines as we did, and not as we should have done without such instructions, &c.

We hope our Seats at this Board may in future be filled with Persons more capable (tho' we presume they will not be better disposed) to do the public business than your humble Servants.

JOHN BROOKE,
GUNNING BEDFORD,
PRESLEY BLAKISTON.

Philad^a, May 17th, 1781.

Directed,

To his Excellency Joseph Reed, Esq., President, &c., &c.

Pres. Reed to Christopher Hayes, 1781.

Sir,

Inclosed I send you the News Papers from the last Week. It is probable you will feel the Effects of the late Resolution of Council in your County, publishing the Rate of Exchange between Continental & hard money at 175. I therefore inclose you our Reasons for that Measure which I am perswaded will be satisfactory, & you will make such use of them as you think proper.

Mr. Duncan of Pittsburgh has already sent his Resignation of the Office, finding the Appointment obnoxious to a great Number of People. This is very unfortunate as we shall now have a second Account to settle. We request you will consult Mr. Scott, & nominate a Person to us who will continue in the Office & do the Duty with Fidelity. You must be sensible that the Support of the County depends much on it, as well as Supporting the credit of the Money. We are drawing fast to the Crisis in which we must know whether Paper Money shall or shall not be Money among us—Should any Measure similar to those which took Place among you respecting our State Money last year again appear, it will be impossible for us to do any Thing for your Relief, or even to support the small Force now there—Finding that the Season is too far advanced for making astronomical Observations for Settlem^t of the line, we have proposed to Virginia to run a Temporary Line for this Season & begin early in the Fall or next Spring with the other. The distressed Condition of Virginia also prevented their proceeding in the Matter so soon as we wish.

You also have herewith a Letter to Gen. Clark, which we request you to forward to him by a safe Conveyance. The Members of Council present you their Complim^ts & beg you to accept of mine.

I am sir your Friend

& Obed Hble Servt,

Directed,

To Christopher Hayes, Esqr., Member of Council.

Indorsed,

May 17th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Gen. Washington, 1781.

Sir,

We have to acknowledge your Excell^y Favour of the [5th] Inst.*—the Observations on the address of the Artill^y Officers of Col. Proctor's Regiment contain so perfect & satisfactory an answer that we hope we shall have no Occasion to trouble your Excell^y on that

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., pp. 727. 788.

Subject again, much less shall we by any act of ours contravene a System which is established not only by Resolutions of Congress & constant Usage, but sanctified with your approbation :—Should the Officers persevere in the Resolution of resigning, we are persuaded no Inconvenience will result to the public service equal to that of yielding on every Occasion to Demands accompanied with this Threat. For we can look upon it in no other Light. We cannot consider Col. Proctor's Resignation in the Light of a publick Misfortune, as he has for a long time harassed every Measure proposed by the Board, & affected an Independency, not only of the authority of the State, but his superior Officers in the Line, & amidst Professions of Respect & Obedience violated almost every arrangement we made for the subsistance & recruiting of her Corps. The very Day that his Resignation was publickly known, Major Eustis came down with a well authenticated Complaint against him of dismissing a few Days before, and after he had declined all other Duty, a great number of the best Soldiers, some of whom had reinlisted with new Bounties, & others had recovered the Gratuity allowed by the State, and their Clothing. At the same time he gave Certificates to all the Musick of the Regiment that they were entitled to Discharges in September next. We do not know how far the authority of a Colonel thus circumstanced extends, but the loss to the Publick & Injury to the Service is very great. Col. Proctor had 8 Days to get his Inlistments to Trenton at the Time of the Discharge under the Commissioners; had he improved this Time the greatest Part of his Regiment would have been retained—but this he did not, under Pretences too frivolous to deserve notice. We are now at a loss to know in what Light to consider Col. Forest, as at one time it is said he is out of Service, & going to superintend the Works at Carlisle—at other Times he appears as having Command & again declines the ordinary Duty—& except in the Case of this Remonstrance seems cautiously to decline signing any Paper to us as Command' of the Regiment. Having a long Time sought for a Return of the Officers of this Regim', without Effect, thro' Col. Proctor, Generals St. Clair & Wayne, we must now trouble your Excell^y to use your authority that we may know who the Officers are & their Rank—every other Regiment has most cheerfully complied with our Request, by which we were enabled to make out an arrangment which we have found exceedingly useful on many Occasions.

We now proceed to the other Part of your Excell^ys Letter & most fervently do we wish we could say what would give you that Content & satisfaction which we would ever wish to do. We should be extremely unhappy if by contradicting Reports which may be made to your Excell^y by inferior Officers when we can do it with Truth & Justice we could be supposed to animadvert on the Representations your Excell^y may think proper to make to Congress; deriving your Information immediately from those communications

& referring immediately to them, we cannot but consider it a Duty we owe to Truth & Justice, to your Excell^y & ourselves, to remove any Impressions which may arise from a misapprehension of Facts. The Late Instances of Col. Blaine and Col. Broadhead appeared to us to fall within this Description from your Excell^ys Letter to Congress confirm your Favour of the Inst. In the first if there was not a false suggestion there was such a Concealment of Truth either accidental or designed, (Mr. Hazelwoods local Duty & other Circumstances considered) as gave your Excell'y a wrong Idea of the Board. Amidst your other Embarrassments, we do not chuse to trouble your Excell^y with Col. Blaine's Letter wrote to us on the Occasion; we are sufficiently humiliated by such Treatment, but we must take the Freedom to pronounce it equally unjust, indecent & impolitick. It may drive men of virtue & Spirit from the publick service, it will never provoke those Existing in it. In the latter Case we have the accounts of the Commissioners & the concurrent Testimony of Mr. Duncan, the Quarter Master at Fort Pitt, that except when the Mills could not grind last Fall, & that for a very little Time there never had been a want of Flour at Fort Pitt, or any other articles we were bound to furnish.

Surounded, as your Excell'y is, with military Cares, it is not presumable you can have Time to enquire into the Concerns of particular States, but we are persuaded you will pardon our exposing a small Part of it, while we offer a few Observations, palliative at least if not justifying the seeming Delinquency of this State, whose Government not standing in the same harmonious and respectable Point of View, as most of its Neighbours is under a necessity of appealing to private as well as publick Candour. This State has not only been the Residence of Congress with all their Train of Attendants & Officers, but also of all the military Mechanism, if I may so express myself, of the Continent. From hence the Quarter Master principally drew his Waggons, his Horses, his Camp Equipage of all kinds—besides a great number of Waggoners & artificers never carried into any publick account, tho' supported with the real substance of the State for depreciating Paper.—Prisoners of War & Prisoners of State have ever been in a very great Proportion the Inheritance of Pennsyl^a.—Our Line untill the Mutiny was deemed the Flower of the army, not from its number so much as the appointments of the State, which exceeded any other. But your Excell'y cannot suppose all this was done without great Expense & accumulating a heavy Load of Debt. We have indeed a painful Pre-eminence in this particular as your Excell'y will see by the inclosed Estimate taken from that in which Congress framed a late circular address to the States. Under these Circumstances our People surcharged with combined Certificates, a Proportion of Millions out lent to the Continent from which the Lender can get neither Principal nor Interest; publick Credit exhausted & private Patriotism sinking under its partial &

oppressive Burthens. Congress adopted the System of State Supplies. The first Demands did not much exceed those Bounds, which the States might approach tho' with Difficulty attain. It was impossible for any State to be more anxious to compass them than this was.—We framed a System upon Principles which Experience has approved: a Sum of Money was emitted upon Funds which Disafection could not depreciate, nor avarice speculate upon—but what neither Disafection nor avarice could do Party did. Least the Governm^t should gain Credit and stability every art was used to lessen the Credit of the Money & prevent its circulation; an Agreem^t to pass the money at Par was violated almost as soon as made. But to avoid the Odium so obvious upon our failure of Supplies, the Scheme of the Bank was adopted by which the World was to see that Individuals could do more than the Government. Every decent Overture was made by Government to effect a Union of Strength, but in vain; elated by the Countenance it received & disdaining all aid underived from Party Views it proceeded for a little Time. But its notes would not circulate—it soon declined credit, but it gave the Paper money of the State an irreparable Wound, & widened all the Breaches which public Virtue could wish to have closed.

In the Mean Time, the Committee at Camp prepared those extraordinary Requisitions, which surprised every considerate Man—the Demands by far exceeding all the current Cash within this State of every Species & kind. Other Nations have expended their whole Income; they have broke in upon the Capital—have anticipated future Taxes; but to take double the Money of a Country at an Instant, for public Use, was reserved to this Occasion. However, that we might not be wanting to reasonable Exertions, especially with a Prospect of the French Fleet arriving, & the Hope of terminating the War, we strained every Nerve: at your Excellency's Call, we turned out our Militia at a very great State Expence; we purchased great Numbers of Horses; we procured Waggons; & in the Article of Provisions, Perseverance & Influence, supported by force, supplied the languid Credit of the Money. But we find ourselves so much exhausted, & the Exertions (however insufficient they might be represented) proved so burthensome to the People, that they sought Relief in a Change of Rulers. The Assembly which had passed Laws for curbing the dissatisfied, for drawing forth the Resources of the State, became odious, & even the calling forth the Militia, agreeable to your Excell^cy^s Requisitions, proved no small Source of Obloquy & discontent, being represented by some rather as an idle Parade to gratify particular Vanity, than resulting from real Necessity. When the new Assembly met, being resolved to do every Thing in our Power for the Support & Supply of the Army, we laid before them all the Requisitions, your Excell^y^s Letters, &c., & added every other Inducement, as you will see by the inclosed Messages—beside which, in Letters which Prudence would not allow

to be put on the Minutes, we urged them, by every Motive, to make an early Provision for the Army & Frontiers; to avail themselves of the Time which the Winter would afford for these important Preparations—but without Effect; & after sitting several Weeks, they broke up, without entering into the Subject farther than to require every Shipper of Flour to deliver ⅓ of his Purchases for the Use of the Army, & classing the Inhabitants for more, by a Mode which has proved very insufficient;—at the preceeding Session, we again pressed them as far as Decency would admit—we represented that the State of the Treasury, the Decline of publick Credit, & other Circumstances, required the most vigorous & decisive Measures. We began plainly to perceive, that, by the Importation of Specie in Return for the Flour shipped to the Havanna, & declining Confidence in Paper, we should soon find Difficulties in purchasing with it. We promised ourselves that some System would have been framed for Supplies, an Estimate of which we laid before them—they were informed that the Laws which enabled the Commissaries to seize in Case of Emergency, had expired. In the Month of April, the Business of Supplies was taken up, & so far effected as to direct an Emission of about £500,000 in Bills of Credit for these & other Purposes. We were, from the first, obliged to purchase at a great Depreciation, which increased to three & four for one—but on the last Arrivals from the Havannah, & before any Declaration of Exchange by public Authority, the Purchases immed'ly stopped, no Flour could be had but for Money; & so it has continued ever since, the late Supplies having been procured chiefly on an Exchange for Salt. We then had Recourse to the Law directing ⅓ to be delivered to the State; bur here, again, we were disappointed; the Merchants would not deliver the ⅓ for Paper Money but at a *Depreciation destructive* of the Money, & many wholly declining it. When the Penalty was to be enforced, we were informed they would unlade it, send it over to New Jersey or the Delaware State, in small Craft, & re-ship it from thence. Your Excell^y advises to compulsory Means, all others failing; every other State has Laws enabling its Executive, in Emergency, to use such Measures—these Laws heretofore subsisted in this State; but, being temporary & now expired, the present Assembly have not thought it adviseable to renew them, or repose any such Confidence in their Execution. It may seem strange to your Excell^y, but it is not less true, that we have not legal Power to impress a single Horse or Wagon, let the Emergency be what it will; nor have we any legal Power whatever over Property in any Instance of publick Distress, or to apprehend the most notorious Emissary from the Enemy on any other than strict legal Proof. The Persons described in your Excell'ys Letter last Fall, as inlisting Men for the Enemy, which was laid before the Assembly, are now at large, entitled to all the Benefit of a Habeas Corpus. In this State of Imbecility, with no other Money but what is universally refused, even by those who had the principal Share in emitting it: without

Powers to seize, under any Circumstances, we feel, we regret, our Inability to answer the public Expectations, with the keenest Sensibilty. We have communicated our Situation to Congress; we have requested them to co-operate with us, & give private Interest some Check in the publick Favour, untill the Magazines could get a Supply. We requested them to recommend an Embargo, for unless that Measure comprehended New Jersey & Delaware, it would not avail here; we even requested them to seize the outward bound Vessels laden with Flour, assuring them of our Concurrence in such a Case of Necessity—For we must frankly acknowledge there is no Scarcity in the Country—This City has now an Abundance for Exportation, tho' we cannot obtain a Barrell with our Money, this Commodity being only attainable for Specie. We have again called the Assembly, with the last Hope of receiving some Relief under our complipicated Burthens & Distresses, which are almost insupportable to Minds anxious to discharge their Duty to the publick, & support the Contest to an honourable Issue. The sufferings of the Army receive at least the Sympathy & Praise of their Country—we have not even this Consolation. We would ever avoid Comparisons as invidious; but we believe when our Supplies are compared with those of other States, we shall, in all Respects, have been found equal to our Neighbours; no other State making regular Returns, their Deficiencies cannot be so easily scertained as ours; but we have good Authority to say, that for two Years past Pennsylvania has borne ¼th of the whole Expence of the War. It is true our Exertions have not been of that brilliant Nature as to draw publick Acknowledgements, tho' we are not intirely without them. Your Excell'y observes we are short of our Quotas: We frankly acknowlodge, that, in our Opinion, the Abilities of the State are not equal to the Quota assigned; but we have done all in our Power *to attain it*. We do not find that any State has ever supplied its Quota? & we submit to your Excell'y whether such constant Deficiencies do not prove that the Estimates are on too large a Scale, or that there is a general Reluctance on the part of the People. The Quotas are the only Rule by which your Excell'y can go—but when Members of Congress are address'd on this Point, they answer that the Estimates are prepared in the Army, & they can only adopt them as framed by the Heads of the several Departments. The Supplies demanded this Year, at the Rates Congress has reckoned, which are much below Market Prices, are equal to Eleven Years Taxes, & all the Income of this State in its most prosperous Days; besides which, all the other Expences of the Frontiers, Satisfaction to the Army, Support of Governmnt, & a vast Variety of other Charges are to be provided for—All these to be defrayed by Money not half equal to the Service nominally; which even the best Whigs will not take but 5 or 6 Times below its legal Value, many refusing it altogether. In this View of our Situation, we must submit to your Excelly's Candour & to that of the World, being well assured that, all Circumstances known & considered, be the Conse-

quences what they may, we shall stand justly acquitted of them before God & Man. That your Excell'y should make the most particular Representations of the State of Supplies to Congress, & urge the States to proper Exertions, perfectly accords with our Idea of that Propriety which has ever distinguished your publick Conduct—but if unfavourable Inferences are thence drawn, & Delinquencies imputed to a particular body of Men, which are justly chargeable to another, or to the Community at large, we submit to your Excell'ys good Judgment whether it is not as natural & just to state freely & truly the true & real Causes of our Misfortunes; & whether it is not the Justice which Innocence & a faithful Discharge of publick Duty reasonably demands. We acknowledge & lament the Decline of publick Spirit; the Rapacity of Private Gain; the Insolence of Disaffection; the Malevolence of Faction, & many other Causes, which seem to have corrupted all the Springs of Government—But we disdain every Practice of this Kind ourselves, & having endeavoured, by Precept, by Example, & Exertion of public Authority, to check these Evils, so pregnant with Ruin; we cannot but claim an Exemption, also, from having any Share of Censure for the Consequences they may produce. And tho' the Army may justly boast many splendid Instances of publick Virtue & disinterested Regard to the publick Interests, we cannot admit their Claim to be an exclusive one; at least we think civil Characters may, with Propriety, ask a candid Construction of their Conduct, & kind Forbearance with each other under mutual Difficulties. If the Service of the publick was not a sufficient Inducement, the grateful Respect we bear to your Excell'y for your great & signal Services, would operate powerfully on us, as we are not ignorant nor inattentive to the laborious, tho' glorious, Task which Providence has assigned to you, the Burthens of which we rejoice to alleviate whenever it is in our Power.

But we shall trespass too far on your Excelly's Patience, & therefore hasten to conclude a Letter which has already exceeded all reasonable Bounds.—In doing this, we apprehend it our Duty to mention some other Particulars of a publick Nature. In the last Page of the inclosed Paper, your Excell'y will find a Report of the Assembly on the Causes of the Mutiny. It might have been expected that Gentlemen possessed of Facts, as they must have been in order to make such a Report, would have pointed out the Persons & Transactions to which they allude when they say "certain Offences enquirable by Court Martial & Military Proceedings were among the Causes." One Instance occurring to us, we thought proper to lay it before a Court Martial. We last Summer sent 46,000 Dollars to Camp, [to] pay an Average of Bounty due to certain Recruits. When Genl. Potter went to Camp in the Winter, he was waited on by these Recruits, complaining of being defrauded by the State of their Bounty. Upon Inquiry, the Receipts were found; & among others a Lieut^t Bigham appears to have been intrusted as the Bearer

of a considerable Part of it. On being called to answer, he acknowledged his having spent it, & among other frivolous Excuses, alledged his Necessity on the Road, tho' upon examining our Minutes we found he had been furnished with Money for his Expences. We desired Genl. St. Clair to enquire into it by a Court Martial, which was readily granted, but reluctantly attended & as abruptly dissolved before they made a Report. They were called together again, reproved for their unmilitary Proceedure, & the fact proved as above; but we do not know what is become of it, the Officers being dispersed without any Satisfaction being given to us. We cannot but expect Mutinies if Injustice is thus done the Soldiery with Impunity. The greatest Part of these Men, tho' inlisted for the War, are now gone, in Consequence of the Disappointment of their Bounty. The March of the Pennsylvania Line to the Southward has been an Object of great Anxiety to us; but really the Demands increased upon us in such a Manner, that we began to doubt whether they would ever march. A Settlement was first necessary—then an Advance of Money—both these being reasonable were complied with; then a new Law was requested to pay down 1/8 of the Depreciation, & a new Settlement to be made—then Interest to be included; all which took up much Time, the Articles of Cloathing, &c., having been provided long ago. These Demands were all satisfied as soon as Money could be emitted. The Auditors were sent back to go round the State a second Time—We made an Arrangement by which every Officer was to be settled with at his proper Post, & suitable Portions of Money sent to each Place; but as soon as it was known that a Payment was begun at Newtown, the Officers came together in all Directions. Money designed for one Place was sent to another; our Plan subverted, & a whole Week was lost. To apologize for the Delay, the Auditor was accused by some of the Officers of Drunkenness & Incapacity, tho' he had long served the Country with Reputation in Matters of Account. Expresses came to us for new Certificates, for more Money, & in short, Confusion & Delay took Place.

Gen. Wayne having intimated to us his Intention of writing to your Excellcy. on the subject we hope he has fully explained it. We can assure your Excellcy the above state is strictly just. We complied with his Requisitions in every particular except the Re-appointment of two Auditors who on the first settlement had made the most inexcusable Mistakes. If any other Delay has happened than as we have stated above, it arose from unavoidable necessity & was the immediate Consequence of the Requisition of the Officers themselves & the Laws passed thereupon.

Conscious of having faithfully & diligently applied to the publick service, denying ourselves not only in the common Attention to our private Affairs but even the smallest Amusements, & having to the best of our Understandings transacted the publick Business entrusted to our Charge, next to the Approbation of our own Minds we would wish to give satisfaction to the Country and in a particular Manner to

your Excell'y, but as in the Beginning of this Contest when Want of Discipline, of Courage, & other military Virtues brought on Losses & Defeats, too many sought to ascribe them to their Generals,—so now finding the publick credit sunk, Taxes demanded, & the spirit which animated them in the Beginning of the Contest absorbed by private Considerations there are too many who seek to exonerate themselves by the most unfair and even cruel Imputations on their Rulers.—For our Parts in particular we find our Burthen so great & our Officers so unthankful, that we shall most cheerfully give place to men of better abilities, and to whom more Confidence may be given—in Fidelity & Diligence we cannot yield to any. And whenever our Country shall think proper to dismiss us either with Praise or Censure, we shall retire with the Consciousness of having with sincerity & Diligence endeavoured to do our duty. While we remain in Office we shall, (as we may be supported & enabled) exert ourselves for the public Welfare & ever pay a scrupulous Regard to the Requisitions of Congress & the Representations your Excell'y may think proper to make.

With these sentiments and entreating your Excell'y to excuse the length of this letter, we hasten to add our fervent Wishes for the Continuance of your Health, Honor & that the future Happiness of your life may compensate the Cares & Anxieties which now attend it.—And to subscribe ourselves with Respect and Esteem.

Your Excell'y obed. Hbbl. servt.,

JOS. REED, Pres.

Indorsed—May 17, 1781.

Military Division of Bedford Co. 1781.

May the 18th, 1781.

At a meeting of the Lieuts. & Sub Lieuts. of Bedford County have devided the said County Into Districkts as follows, that is to Say, Bedford Township Turkey Foot, Brother Vally, Qemihoning, & Milford Township, and that part of Providence Township on the north side Juniatta River to compose one Battallion.

Dublin Township, Shurley, Barree, Hopewell, Frankstown, & Huntington Township, are to Compose One Battallion.

Air Township, Bethel, Providence, Colerain and Cumberland Valley Townships are to Compose One Battallion, Except those of the Inhabitants that live on the north Side of Juniatta River, & John Livingston, Amos Jones, Adam Miller, & Abraham Covalt, that lives on the South Side of Juniatta, they are to fall in with the Bedford Battallion this Division agreed to By,

GEORGE ASHMAN, L. B. C.
ROBERT CULBERTSON, S. L. B. C.
JAMES MARTAIN, S. L. B. C.
EDWARD COMBS, S. L. B. C.

Col. Sam. Miles to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philada. May the 18th, 1781.

Sir,

The City Wardens have call'd on to remove the fence from a Lott of ground up market street, between Eleventh & Twelveth streets,* inclosed for the use of the Public. I should be loath to ask any favor of your Excellency or the Honorable Council that would be inconsistant, or put you under any difficulty in granting, but being unacquainted with the law respecting these Lotts, I take the liberty of asking permission in behalf of the Publick of holding this lot at least till' the day of sale, if it should be sold, and doubt not but permission will be granted me if it can be done with propriety, It is now in good grass & being so near the stables, is exceedingly convenient, especially for sick Horses which frequently require grass, and at the same time must be often looked after.

I have the Honor to be,
your Excellencies most obedt.
& most Hble. Servt.

SAML. MILES D. Q. M.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed Esqr., President of Pennsylvania.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War office May 19 1781.

Sir,

The Board have been informed by a Letter from Genl. Wayne that Mr. Henry Lancaster has it in his Power to furnish Leather accoutrements to Moylan's Horse if he had Authority from Council for the Purpose. We do ourselves the Honour to enclose his Letter to General Wayne on the Subject, & if the Council can with any Propriety enable him to provide the accoutrements we beg the Favour of them to do it & agree that all Monies advanced on this account out of the State Treasury be charged to the United States.

We have the honor to be,
with great respect your very obed. Servt.

RICHARD PETERS.
By Order,

His Excellency President Reed.

* Girard's Square. ?

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Circular.

Philadelphia, May 19th, 1781.

Sir,

Congress are under the disagreeable necessity of informing you that they have received advices from the Commander in Chief & officers commanding separate Posts assuring them that unless supplies of provisions are immediately furnished by the State the Army must disband and some of the most important posts be evacuated.

This alarming Intelligence Congress have thought proper to communicate to the respective states and at the same time to assure them that unless prevented by a full & speedy compliance of the State with the Requisitions of Congress those fatal Events must inevitably take place.

By order of Congress,
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

Directed,
His Excellency, President Reed.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Circular.

Philadelphia, May 19, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, the Copy of a Resolve of the 17th Instant, recommending to the several Legislatures to enact Laws making further Provision [as specified in the Act] to guard against the Abuses & deceitful Practices of the British by making use of Papers and Clearances they may take in American Vessels.

The Measures recommended in this, and the former Resolve of the 11th of November, 1780, become the more necessary, as our Allies have not only suffered by the Deception of the British, but in several Instances our own People in the West Indies have also suffered from the French, under the Apprehension that they were British, for want of Evidence & proper Documents to evince the contrary.

I have the Honor to be with very great Respect,

Your Excellency's
most obedient &
most humble Servant.
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President

Directed,
His Excellency, President Reed.

Resolve of Congress, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled, May 17th, 1781.

Whereas, The hon^ble the Minister of France hath represented to us, that the precautions pointed out in the Resolution of Congress of the 11th of Novr 1780, are insufficient to prevent the abuse, which the British may make of Papers or Clearances they take in American prizes if confined to vessels of War and not extended to merchant vessels and in general all Vessels dispatched from the United States, therefore,

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the Legislature of the several States, that they enact Laws as soon as may be, ordering the naval officers in their respective ports to require the Master and chief Mate of all Vessels unarmed as well as armed, which shall be dispatched from their respective ports, to undersign their Clearance in the presence of the naval Officer of the port, who is also to insert on the back of the clearance, a minute Description of the persons of the Master and his mate, with their age, Stature, Complexion, &c. respectively, and to certify the same under his Signature and seal of office.

Extract from the Minutes,
CHA. THOMSON,* Sec^y.

Lt. George Ashman to Pres. Reed, 1780.

Bedford County, Littleton, May 19th, 1781.

Sir,

On Friday the fourth of this Instant the Indians came into this County Killed one man a woman and two children and took one man prisoner within one mile of Col^o John Pipers on Yellow creek, I have Just received the returns of all the male white Inhabitants residing in this county that come under the Militia Law in the whole foureteen Hundred and fifty six and am now forming them. I hope your Excelency will order one hundred of the Militia of Cumberland County to be ready to take post in this county when those that are now heare are discharged, which will be the foureteenth day of June or send me such orders as will enable me to call out the Militia of this County from the interior parts of it by that time. If this is omitted I can assure your Excelency that a principal part of the Inhabitants of this County will moove of, as many familys have already moov'd when the late damage was dun. I have been obliged to surply the Cumberland Militia with ammunition therefore pleas to order three hundred of powder and six hundred of Lead to

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 788.

be sent for the use of this county as soon as possible as the County is much in want of amunition you may depend that nothing shall be wanting of me in the execution of my office that is in my power.

I have the honour to be your Excelencys
most Obedient Humble Servant.
GEORGE ASHMAN, L. B. C.

Directed,
His Excelency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, supreme Judge of the Executive Council.

Pres. Reed to Col. Sam. Miles, 1781.

Sir,
Mr Bautcher has again applied about his money. It has ever been considered that when Waggons are called into publick service upon the Requisition of Gen. Washington & the Congress the Continental Qr Master has paid them. We do not recollect an Instance to the contrary & therefore after deliberating upon your Letter cannot think it our Duty to establish a Precedent which will be injurious to the state. As Mr Bautcher's Case is a very hard one & we are sensible of your Difficulties about money if by any Order on us or on any other mode it can be carried into account we will endeavour to furnish you with the Money for the Occasion. As we have Reason to acknowledge your Care & Attention frequently in our Concerns with the Departm. we make no Doubt you will contrive some Mode to relieve both yourself & us from his complaints which unfortunately are but too reasonable.

I am Sir,
your obed. & very Hble Ser.

Indorsed,
May 19th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Mons. Holker, 1781.

Sir,
In answer to your Favour of this morning respecting the Vessels going to St Domingo am to acquaint you that the Naval Officer has been spoken to on the Occasion & will not make any farther Difficulty.

I am Sir,
your obed. Hble Serv.

Indorsed,
May 29th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Wm. Henry, 1781.

Sir,

Gen. Wayne has transmitted to us & the Board of War a Copy of your Letter to him of the 16 Inst., wherein you observe that if Council will give Orders for equipping the 60 Dragoons you will provide them in 2 weeks. You must be sensible that the Mode of turning over the Money from State to Congress is not perfectly agreeable to us, & we wish to avoid it as much as possible, but in the present Case we are so anxious to do every Thing in our Power that we consent to it upon the following Terms, which your known Punctuality in Business assures us you will comply with, viz. That you furnish the Board of War immediately after with a Return of the Money expended & if there are any former Monies under the same Predicament to include them, & at the Same Time forward an Order on the Board in favour of Mr. Rittenhouse which being negotiated with the Treasurer of the United States may enable us to take Credit in his Books for the sum, & you at the same Time have Credit with Mr. Rittenhouse.

Gen. Greene has received a small Check at Camden, in Consequence of a Sally made by Ld. Rawdon but it is not of much Consequence as he immediately reinvested the Place, his Loss is 108 killed, wounded & missing, the Enemy lost 50 Prisoners, other Losses not known. Gen. Marion supprized a Post of 100 Men (73 British Troops) a few Days before—Gen. Green seems assured of final Success at Camden which we hope a few Days will realise.

I am Sir,

Your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

William Henry Esqr., Lancaster.

Indorsed

May 21, 1781.

Pres. Reed to John Nicholson, 1781.

Philad. May 21, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of yesterday was duly received & your Request compled with, Mr. having received £4000 which he will deliver you. We expected you would have acknowledged the Receipt of £10,000 sent up by Mr. Hayes one of our Members & lodged with Mr. Slagh till you should reach York Town. Your changing your Route from that which you made when you settled the Depreciation was unexpected, and has occasioned some of this Difficulty as we forwarded the Money to York Town expecting it would overtake you at that Place. However we intreat that no Difficulty may arise with you or us, as we are extremely anxious to hear the Troops are on march, & especially as there has been already some unjust Reflections thrown upon us on account of the Delay. You will endeav-

our (first consulting Gen. Wayne) in some proper manner to signify to the Serjeants the sense we have of their Conduct in advancing the Money, & by all Means punctually to repay them Least you may be alarmed with a Report of Gen. Green's being defeated, I could inform you that the true acct. is that having invested Camden he made some Detatchments which Ld. Rawdon taking advantage of made a sally in which he was well received & our Troops got so much advantage as to take 250 Prisoners but a Part of a Maryland Regt. unfortunately giving Way, its Commander directed a Retreat which was supposed or at least had the Effects of a general Order. Our Troops retreated about 3 miles without losing any Cannon or Waggons, Returned to their General again that Evening, & were prosecuting the Seige with Spirit so as to expect an early surrender, a Post of 100 Men (73 Regulars,) surrendered to Gen. Marion, & Col. Lee.

I am Sir, Your Obed. Hble. Servt.

Pres. Reed to Brig. Gen. Wayne, 1781.

Sir,

On the 19 Inst. in the Evening I received your Favour of the 16. The Inconveniencies of the County Treasurer applying the Money to the use of his Office as agent for Cloathing is very considerable & has already perplexed the affairs of the State to a great Degree. But as we are anxious to comply with every Request where it can be done without doing too great an Injury, we have wrote to Mr Henry to compleat the Equipments as soon as possible, & we will negotiate the Settlement afterwards. We have already given the most express Orders to the Commissioners at Lancaster & York to purchase Cattle & have also sent them Money for the Purpose. We are glad to find that Mr. Shermans Delay has not occasioned any material Difficulty of march as Mr. Nicholson writes us that the 4th, Regiment had not arrivd at York the 20th. We learn that the 5th marched from Reading last Week—Mr. Nicholson taking a Route different from his former, disappointed us as the Money was forwarded to York Town for him. We have despatched his Express with all possible Haste, fully complied with his Requisition so that we hope all Difficulties on the Subject are now over.

That you may not be misled by false Rumours with Respect to Gen. Greene I enclose you President Huntingtons note to me on the affair.

By the Days post we learn that De Lancy surprized Col. Green at the White Plains, killed him, his Major, & 3 Privates, capturing 40 of others with some Subaltern Officers.

The Express waiting, have only Time to add that I am with the most perfect good Wishes to yourself & Detatchment.

Sir Your Obed. & very Hble Servt.

Indorsed,—May 21, 1781.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

From Lancaster, May 21st, 1781.

Sir,

I received the favour of your letter of the 10th Instant, a few days since, inclosing a resolution from Council confirming the call of ye 2nd Class of the 8th Batallion of Lanr County militia. The whole of the 2nd Class of the three Battallions, including non-Comd officers &c., amount to a few more men than the number required, however I find we have use for them as our situation is by no means the most desirable. The Bayonetts, sent under the care of Mr Hays also came safe to hand.

A daring plot was discovered on the night of the 16th instant at the barracks, in which are confined the British Prisoners, which however by the early intiligence we received was happily frusterated. About 11 Clock at night I was called upon by the officer of the Guard who informed me a soldier of the 71st regiment had come to the guard house (one of ye Block-houses,) desiring admittance, that he had a matter of importance to communicate, he was accordingly admitted and gave the following intelligence. That the serjeants of the Prisoners had a private and unanimous meeting that day and form'd a plan to effect the escape of the whole, viz: They, after their meeting broke up inform'd the Prisoners of their resolution and gave directions for the whole to be in readiness on the proceeding day to avail themselves of the opportunity when the Gates opened for the delivery of their Wood the whole to rush out, surprize the Guard & disarm them, they then would proceed to town where a certain Inhabitant (his name we cannot find out,) would conduct them to a Magasine of arms & ammunition, these they were also to take, then to fight their way thro' the Country and effect their escape.

I immediately on receiving the information after making some necessary dispositions of the Guard entered the Barrack yard, and ordered the whole of the serjeants (upward of forty in number,) to parade, which after some time was effected, I then gave them in charge of the Guard and had them conducted to the Jail were they are now safely lodg'd. We have 800 Prisoners here, the number of disaffected people thro' this Country is very considerable so that our situation is truly alarming when I consider the state in which I find the militia, should the Prisoners once clear themselves of the barracks the few men on Guard who no doubt would do their duty would not be able to stop them, The well disposed Inhabitants who would be willing to lend their aid & assistance *for want of arms* can only be idle spectators and perhaps see their own & neighbours property destroyed without being able to give the least opposition.

If some ways & means could be fallen on to arm the militia of this Town I should consider it safe from any attempt of the prisoners or their Emissaries.

By the particular desire of the most reputable Inhabitants of this place I am to solicite Council that they do arm and relief after the expiration of their Tour the present Guard by an equal number of men from the 8th Batallion (town militia,) only and this Batallion to be reserv'd (so long we have the prisoners with us,) for that duty. It will answer various good purposes. The farmer will now be wanted in the field to gather his Harvest and the expenses of quartering Country militia when call'd upon to perform a tour of duty can be saved as the Town people have their own houses to go to, besides should their be a call for militia to march this summer this town must in a manner be left naked as the Guards merely, would not be sufficient to secure 800 Prisoners exclusive of their Emissaries which I believe are not inconsiderable.

Other reasons could be advanced but Council will from what has already been said be able to determine on the matter.

I could wish in the present critical moment of affairs to conclude and give Council as little trouble as possible But necessity as well as duty obliges me to demand a further indulgence and give Council a short narrative of an unhappy affair which happened on the 19th instant between the Guards and Colo. Moylar's Dragoons. It appears one of the Dragoons for some offence which he had committed was put into the Goal-house, a rescue by the Dragoons was agreed on, they accordingly assembled armed with Pistols and swords march'd to the Barracks and one more daring than the rest stept up to the sentinel who previously desired him not to advance or he would put him to death, this however had no effect, he (the Dragoon) first cocking & presenting his loaded Pistol attempted to sieze the sentinel's arms who instantly fired & killed him, the deceas'd's Pistol in his falling went off also & wounded one of the militia men in the thigh.

This gave alarm to the Town & the Horse finding their situation rather precarious made off to their respective quarters. Ever since this affair the Inhabitants have been kept in continual alarm on account of the threads and behaviour of the dragoons who swear vengeance against the militia and particularly the sentinel who like a good soldier did his duty on his post (an inquest was held on the body of the deceased,) He, for his security has kept in the Guard-house ever since, they have threatned to force the Guards and seize him, indeed last evening (12 •Clock,) some attempts were made but the activity of the out Centinels after Hailing some men who were coming towards him and receiving impertinent language, fir'd, and this day tho' it is not yet clearly found out we are informed one of the Horseman was shot thro' the arm. I have call'd on the Comr officer of the Horse and requested he with his officers should exert themselves in putting a stop to this affair, every step by them is taken I believe to find out the leaders and have them punished, the magistrates meet this afternoon for the same purpose, my aid and assistance shall not be wanting, but the insult offered Government

and the continual alarm the Inhabitants are kept in has determined me to give the most pointed orders to the Guard and I have no reason to doubt but they will do their duty.

I have in consequence of the resolution of Council stoping the Collecting of fines unless from those people who chose to pay state money at the rate of 75 for one, stop'd the Collectors from collecting the late fines untill your further orders which should be glad to hear of as soon as possible. We meet with difficulty in Drawing candles, paper, &c., for the Guards which they cannot possibly do without from quartermaster, he thinks it necessary an order from Council or Board of war for that purpose should be sent.

I am with greatest respect
your Excell'ys most obt. Servt,
ADm HUBLEY, Jr., Lt Lr Cy.

Lt. Sam'l Rea to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Northampton, May 21st, 1781.

Honed Sir,

Since my last the Enemy have withdrawn from the frontier without doing any further damage Except Burning a Barn. I have called in the two Battalions that marched to the assistance of the frontier and have left a Guard of one hundred men that was ordered out by your Excellency's directions which I hope will be approved.

I have received the Ammunition that was sent under the care of Captain Shrawder. Your Excellency wrote to me that we have had in our County since April, 1780, one thousand two hundred and twenty five Pounds of Powder and one thousand six hundred and fifty of Lead which I apprehend must be a Mistake as I have had an account of but 700 lbs of Powder and 1200 of Lead before what was sent by Captain Shrawder.

I Expect to be in with my accounts the 29th or 30th of this Instant at which time I purpose to resign my Commission as the Circumstance of my family will not admit of me serving any longer And as your Excellency requested me to recommend a pay-master of the Militia of this County therefore I would recommend John McFarren, Junr, for that office.

I am Sir
your Excellency's most obedient
and very Humble servant,
SAMUEL REA, Liut.*

Directed,
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of Pennsylvania.

* Resigned on the 30th May, 1781. Col. Rec. Vol. XII., p. 736.

CHARLES PETTIT TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philadelphia, 21st May, 1781.

Sir,

I sincerely wish it was in my power to give your Excellency an accurate estimate of the public debts in this State, ascertained by certificates given in the Quarter Master's department; but at present it is a business out of my reach. I will however, give you the best estimate I can.

In February last I was called upon by a Committee of Congress for such an estimate for the whole department throughout the United States. On comparing the returns I then had, and I have received none since, I found the debts in Pennsylvania, of which I had an account, amounted to about thirteen millions four hundred thousand dollars. Of these about one half, or rather more were returned as being settled in continental money & certificates given for them. But as orders had been given to settle the whole in that manner, and the business may be yet going on as the creditors choose to accept of that mode of settlement, the proportion of certified debts may now be larger. Orders have also been given to liquidate & certify the value in specie of these debts respectively, pursuant to the resolution of Congress of the 26th of August last, but I am apprehensive no great progress has been made in that business. These debts were contracted at various rates of depreciation and I can form no certain idea of their value in specie; but if I were to hazard a conjecture on the subject I should suppose the debts of the Quarter Master's department in Pennsylvania on a fair liquidation would amount to about four hundred thousand dollars in silver. They are larger in this State than in any other, and I have reason to believe they are larger in continental money than the estimate I made in February as above mentioned. I have made no deductions however for such as may have been paid in for taxes, having had no account of them; neither do I take into contemplation on this occasion any other than the debts contracted under the administration of General Greene as Quarter Master Gen'l, having no knowledge of those contracted since.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble servant.

CHA. PETTIT, A. Q. M. Gen'l.

Directed,

His Excellency, The President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed,

May 22nd, 1781. From Charles Pettit, Esquire, Ast Qr Mr Genl respecting debts due upon Certificates.

Gov. Tho's Jefferson of Virg'a to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Charlottesville, May 22, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency's Favor of the 6th Inst came to Hand yesterday. The Movements of the Enemy since I did myself the Honor of writing to your Excellency on the subject of our joint Boundary having rendered it necessary in the Opinion of the General Assembly for them to adjourn to this Place, the Executive have of course come hither for a Time. This has placed us at a great Distance from Mr Madison and Mr Andrews, two of the Commissioners appointed for the Purpose of running the Boundary. These Gentlemen also unfortunately reside at Williamsburg, a Place supposed to be an Object with the Enemy, and I am not without Fears that this new Circumstance will create Difficulties in the Time of their attendance. I shall immediately dispatch an Express to them with a communication of your Excellency's letter, and will on receipt of their answer do myself again the Honor of writing to you. In the mean Time as there remain but three weeks between this and the 12th of June, the Day proposed by your Excellency for the meeting of the Commissioners, as a Part of this will be effluxed before I can receive a Letter from our Commissioners and it is probable they have to provide for the safety of their Families before their Departure. I will beg leave to consider it as your Excellency's Desire that as early a Day as possible after that may be fixed on, and take the Liberty of communicating the earliest at which they will be able to attend according to the answer I shall receive from them.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect,
your Excellency's most obedient
and most humble Servant.
TH. JEFFERSON.

James Bailey to Pres. Reed, 1781.

May it plaas your Excelincy.

Donegall, may 22d, 1781.

Sir,

Agreeable to the order of Council of the 25th of July last I sent in to the Publick service five brogaids of teams consisting of fifty-four waggons, our defficulty in raising them was very great, as it was a throng time with the farmers, we had in general to maike up each team from five sundry farmers, (for the proof of which I send you Inclosed the praisment bill of one brogaide) which ocasioned the Raising of the teams to be tedeous and exspencive as many people put their Horses out of the way and their waggons out of order in

the begining of Janwary last I went to Phila^da at the Request of the farmers and waggon Masters to endeavor to draw their pay and toock down the pay Rols Proved, and left them with Colonel Miles Quarter Master but could get no money, he refused to settle with me for my assistants or my self saying the Quarter Masters had no right to settle with the county waggon Masters or their assistants, that it was a state afair, but only with the Conductors, and them he only allowed Eight Shillings p^r day for themselves and the haire of their Horse.

I am with the greatest esteem
your Excelencys most obedient
and very Humble serv't.
JAMES BAYLY, W. M.
Lancaster county.

Directed,
To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire.

Col. Daniel Brodhead to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a May 22nd, 1781.

Sir,

In the last Letter I had the Honor to address to your Excellency, I mentioned my intention to carry an expedition against the revolted Delaware Towns. I have now the pleasure to inform you, that with about three hundred men, (nearly half the number Volunteers from the Country,) I surprized the Towns of Cooshasking & Indaochaie, killed fifteen Warriors and took upwards of twenty old men, women & Children. About four miles above the Town, I detached a party to cross the river Muskingum & destroy a party of about forty warriors, who had just before, (as I learnt by an Indian whom the advance Guard took prisoner,) crossed over with some prisoners & Scalps, and were drunk, but excessive hard rains having swell'd the river bank high, it was found impracticable. After destroying the Towns with great quantities of poltry and other stores and killing about forty head of Cattle. I marched up the River, about seven miles, with a view to send for some craft from the Moravian Towns, & cross the River to pursue the Indians; But when I proposed my plan to the Volunteers, I found they conceived they had done enough, and were determined to return, wherefore I marched to Newcomers Town, when a few Indians, who remain in our Interest had withdrawn themselves, not exceeding thirty men. The Troops experienced great kindness from the Moravian Indians & those at Newcomer's Town & obtained a sufficient supply of meat & Corn to subsist the men and Horses to the Ohio River. Captain Killbuck & Captain Luzerne, upon hearing of our Troops being on the Muskingum, immediately pursued the Warriors, killed one of

their greatest Villains and brought his scalp to me. The plunder brought in by the Troops, sold for about eighty Thousand pounds at Fort Henry. I had upon this Expedition Captain Mantour & Wilson & three other faithful Indians who contributed greatly to the success.

The Troops behaved with great Spirit & although there was considerable firing between them and the Indians, I had not a man killed or wounded, & only one horse shot.

I have the Honor to be with great respect & attachment your Excellencies

most obed^t most Hh^ble Servt.

DANIEL BRODHEAD.

Col^o 1st P. R.

Directed,

His Excell'y Joseph Reed, Esquire.

Pres. Reed to Pres. of Congress, 1781.

Sir,

We received your Excell^ys Favour of the 19 Inst., advising us of the Distress of the Army for Provisions & the Probability of its disbanding as well as the Evacuation of sendry important Posts if immediate Assistance is not given. We beg Leave to assure your Excell'y that nothing shall be wanting on our Part to give Relief, at the same time we must regret our Inability to render those Services which the Importance of this Occasion Demands. The Assembly provided two modes to enable the executive Powers to procure Supplies, the first that every Shipper of Flour should deliver one third of his proposed Exportation at Market Price to the State Commissioners, but this is generally declined on account of receiving Paper in Payment, & many Vessels go to Delaware State where no Restriction whatever subsists. The second mode was by an Emission of Paper Money but for above a month past Paper of all kinds has been pretty generally refused in Payment for Flour. The Trade in this Article being now carried on in actual Specie.

With Respect to compulsory methods which are recommended to us by the Commander in Chief, we beg Leave to observe that the Laws for this Purpose being temporary have expired by their own Limitation & the present Assembly has not deemed it expedient to renew them so that we have no legal Authority whatever to use coercive modes or Power to carry them into sufficient Effect. The Gen. Assembly of the State are summoned to meet on the 24 Inst., when we hope some suitable Steps may be taken to remedy these great & alarming Evils. In the mean Time we would express our

Readiness as far as in our power to concur with the Hon. Congress in any special Measures adapted to the present Emergency & to submit so far as this State is concerned to any Restriction which shall be thought necessary for the publick Services.

I have the Honor, &c.

His Excell'y the Pres^t of Congress.

Indorsed,

May 22, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Delegates in Congress, 1781.

Gentlemen:

A Person was lately tried convicted & *received Sentence of Death by a Court of Admiralty in this State held under the 9th Article of the Confederation & a Law of this State for the trial of Prisoners. The Record was transmitted to us with others from the Supreme Court & a Death Warrant has been signed for the Execution to-morrow—but on consid^g the Matter a Doubt has occured as to the Legality of his Tryal the Chief Justice who is a Delegate of Congress appearing by the Record to have sat as one of the Judges.

We are also in Doubt how far the Warr^t of Execution was proper from this Board & whether as the Resolves of Congress & Articles of Confederation now stand the executive Powers are competent to the Execution or Reprieve or Pardon of a Criminal under this Act. We therefore request you would lay these Matters before the Hon. Body of which you are Members without loss of time & request their Advice & assistance & if a Conference should be deemed necessary we we will attend it at any Time most convenient to the Gentlemen app^d.

I am, Gent, with due Respect,
& Consideration your Obed
& very Hble Servt,

Indorsed,

May 22d, 1781, To the Honble the Delegates of Pennsylvania.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Circular.

Philadelphia May 24, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, several Resolves of the 22d Instant,† upon the Report of a Committee to devise further Ways and Means to carry on the present Campaign.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 782.

† See foregoing—also Col. Rec., Vol. VII, p. 786.

As the Measures proposed in these Resolves are the Result of Necessity after due Deliberation, it is expected the Necessity as well as the Importance of those Measures will have a suitable Impression on the States universally, and excite them to a vigorous and punctual Compliance.

I have the Honor to be
with the highest Respect
Your Excellency's most obedient
& most humble Servant,
SAM'L HUNTINGTON,
President.

Directed,

His Excellency President Reed, Esqr.

Resolutions of Congress, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

May 22d, 1781.

The Report of the Committee *appointed to devise farther Ways and means to carry on the present Campaign &c., was taken into Consideration, whereupon,

Resolved,

That the whole Debts already due by the United States be liquidated as soon as may be to their specie Value, and funded, if agreeable to the Creditors, as a Loan upon Interest.

That the States be severally informed that the Calculation of the Expences of the present Campaign are made in solid Coin, and consequently that the Requisitions from them respectively—being grounded on those Calculations must be complied with, in such Manner as effectually to answer the purpose designed:—That Expences having evinced the Inefficacy of all attempts to support the Credit of paper Money by compulsory Acts, it is recommended to such States where Laws making paper Bills a Tender yet exist to repeal the same.

That the States be farther informed that the Exigency and Situation of publick affairs is such that any farther Delay in Complying with the Requisitions of Congress must prove ruinous and that therefore the Treasurer of the United States is directed immediately to draw orders on the Treasurers of the several States payable at thirty days sight for their respective Quotas of the three Millions of Dollars called for on the 26th Day of August, 1780, and which was to have been paid into the continental Treasury on or before the last

* See page 85–9.

day of December last, and that he will in like Manner continue to draw orders on them for their respective Quotas of the Sums called for by the Acts of the 4th of November, and 16th of March last, as they become due: and that it is expected the States will severally direct their Treasurers to accept those Orders as soon as presented and take effectual Measures to enable their respective Treasurers to pay them punctually as they become due.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA'S THOMSON, Sec'y.*

CAPT. ALEXANDER MITCHELL TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Wyoming, ~~the 25th~~ May, 1781.

Sir,

By the Return of Stores on hand and the Number of Troops that Draws Rations at this Post, you may Easily judge how the Garison is Suply'd, and By all Accounts there is no beef to be had at Sunbury, nor no Money. The Barror, Mr. Hamilton, who I have appointed Issuing Commissary at this Post, is appointed By Colonel Hunter and William Shaw, Esqr., to purchas Sapplyes here.

I should Be Glad you would order him a Supply of Money, as I think there Can be some beef and Pork Purchased here, or otherwise order some Beef to be forwarded to me. I should be Glad Mr. Hamilton would not Be detain'd, as I Cannot well Spair him from the Garrison.

I am, with Esteem,
your Excellencies Most
obedient and Very Humble S^t,
ALEX'R MITCHELL, Capt Comd^t.†

Directed,

His Excellence Governor Reed, Philadelphia.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 736.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 741.

Return of Rations drawn pr. day by the Troops under the Command of Colonel Zebulon Butler, at Wyoming, 1781.

Return of Rations Drawn Pr. day By the Troops Under the Command of Colonol Zebulin Butler At Wyoming; When Captain Mitchell took the Command, 22d Feb^y, 1781.

Names of Companies.	Colonels.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Doctors.	Commisarys.	Forage Masters.	Sergants.	Rank & file.	Women and Children.	Artificers.	Total.
Field Officers,	1										1
Captn Simon Spaldings Comp^y,		1	2				7	54	52		116
Captain Paul Shotts Company,		2	1				4	19	8		34
Staff Department.				1	2	1		1	3	4	12
Total,	1	3	3	1	2	1	11	74	63	4	163

N. B. the women and Children draw but half Rations which makes 131½ Rations Drawn p^r day at the Garison.

The above is the Return I received from Mr. Hugh Forsman After I took Command of the Garison.

ALEX^r MITCHELL,
Cap't Comd^t.

Col. Alexander Mitchell to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Wyoming, the 25th May, 1781.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 26th January last,* you may depend I shall make it my study to Carefuly abide by the Resolutions of Congress and the orders of his Excellence General Washington. You may Rest Assur'd whilst this place Continues disputed between two States that I will not suffer any person under my Command to Join in partie on Either Sides; nor shall I suffer any Stores or Provisions belonging to the public to be given to any person as an indusement for them to Continue here, Unless those intitled by the Resolves of Congress to it.

I have got my Fort almost compleated, and have Built a Magazine, which the plase was in great want of, as there was no plase to

* See Vol. VIII., p. 716.

hold the Amunition But the Boxes Covered with Snow and exposed to any Storm that might approach when I ariv'd here to take the Command. I should have wrote you sooner, but it has drawn all my attention to put the Fort in a situation of defence. Since I came to the post I have sent you a Return of the Stores at this post Both in the Commissary and Quartermaster Departments.

I am with the Greatest Esteem
your Excelencies most Obedient
and Very Humble St,
ALEX'R MITCHELL, Capt Comdt.*

Return of Stores on hand in the Commissary Department at Wyoming, 1781.

Return of stores on hand in the Com'y Department, at the post of Wyoming, 25th May, 1781.

65 Barrels of Flour, 13,975lb, Nett Weight.
4 Barrels of salt shad, Containing 400.
3,489lb of Dryd Beef, which has been Condem'd.
10 Bushels of Potatoes.
120lb Bisquet.
1 Hogshead, 5 Barrels, and 9 Kegs of Salt.
5 Barrels of Whiskey, Containing 152 Gallons.
2 Barrels of Sof Soap.
160lb Candles.

THOMAS HAMILTON.

Directed,
To Captain Mitchell.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War office, May 25, 1781.

Sir,

The Board have the Honour to enclose a Resolution of Congress on the Subject of the Convention Troops. We have concluded to send them to Rutland, in Massachusetts Bay, as the Theater of the War will most probably be in the Southern States. We have to request your Excellency & the Honble Council to give every Assistance in your Power to Col. James Wood, who is appointed to superintend the removal of these Troops, especially as to Guards, Forage & Provisions. We think six hundred Militia necessary for guarding

* See Vol. VIII., page 716.

the Prisoners, & we request you will be pleased to order this Number properly officered to assemble at York Town as soon as possible, to take charge of the Prisoners thro' the State of Pennsilvania. Orders to the County Waggon Masters will also be necessary to have in Readiness from thirty to fifty Waggons, that Col. Wood may be furnished on the earliest Notice from him with such Number as may be requisite. The Route of the Troops will be thro' York Town by Anderson's Ferry to Reading, from thence by Way of Allen Town & Bethlehem to Easton. We shall request the Executive of Jersey to order Militia to receive the Prisoners on their arrival in that State. Five Days Provisions at each Post for three thousand Men will be necessary, & we hope you will be pleased to give Orders for this Quantity to be in Readiness, viz., fifteen thousand Pounds Weight of Beef & the like Quantity of Flour at each Post. The Provisions furnished these Troops will be accounted for in Part of the Quota called for by Congress from your State, as will also any Quantity of Forage consumed by Col. Woods orders by the Horses attending the Troops.

We have the Honour to be
with great Respect,
your very obed Servants,
RICHARD PETERS,
By order.*

Directed,
On public service.
His Excellency The President & The Honble Council of Pennsilvania.
(War Office.)

Officers in the Pennsylvania Regiment of Artillery. Resolution of Congress, 1781.

The Officers in the Pennsylvania Regiment of Artillery, Claim the Promotions in said Regiment, by the following Resolves of Congress, and Articles of Confederation; which Articles were Ratified previous to the Vacancies happening in the Regiment.

In Congress, Septr 16th, 1776.

Resolved, That the appointment of all Officers and filling up Vacancies (except Genl Officers) be left to the Government of the several States.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 735.

Novr 24th, 1778.

Whereas it will be for the benefit of the service that some Rule of promotion be established. Therefore Resolved, That in *all future* promotions Officers Rise Regimentally to the Rank of Captain, and thence in the line of the State to the Rank of Colonel.

October 3^d, 1780.

Resolved, That the several states furnish the following Quotas, viz. Pennsylvania Six Regiments of Infantry, One of Artillery, One of Cavalry and One of Artificers. That the States shall select from the Line of the Army a proper number of Officers to Command the several Regiments to *them respectively assigned*, taking notice that no new appointment is to be made of a higher Rank than that of Lieut. Col. Commandant.—That the Regiments of Cavalry & Artillery & Artificers as they now stand be considered as belonging to the States respectively to which they are or may be assigned, which States shall compleat them to the full complement, supply them with necessaries and in every respect treat them as if originally raised therein.

May 25th, 1781. Resolved,

That Promotions in the Cavalry and Artillery be Regimental to the Rank of Commanding Officer, inclusive.

CONFEDERATION.

Article 2^d. Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independance, & every power, jurisdiction and right which is not by this confederation *expressly* delegated to the United States in Congress assembled.

Art. 7th. When land-forces are raised by any State for the common defence, all Officers of, or under the rank of Colonel, shall be appointed by the Legislature of each State respectively, by whom such forces shall be raised, or in such manner as such State shall direct, and *all* Vacancies shall be filled up by the State which first made the appointment.

Art. 9th. ———— The United States in Congress assembled shall also have the sole and exclusive power of appointing all officers of the land forces in the service of the United States, *excepting regimental Officers* ———— the Legislature of each State shall appoint the Regimental Officers.

Art. 13th. ———— And the Articles of this confederation shall be inviolably observed by every State, and the Union shall be perpetual; nor shall any alteration at any time hereafter be made in any of them; unless such alteration be agreed to in a Congress of the United States, and be afterwards confirmed by the legislatures of every State.

Hon. Wm. Atlee to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster the 25th, May, 1781.

Sir,

This will be handed to you by Capt. Hambright our Barrack Master, by whose care and industry the Barracks here, are placed in pretty good order, and I am confident he has gone the cheapest way to work in executing the business, having employed the Prisoners themselves in doing several parts of the work, his knowledge of the Farmers, & influence with them has been a means of our having supplies of wood & other necessarys hitherto, but they now begin to look for their pay, which obliges him to undertake this Journey in hopes Council will furnish him with Cash not only to discharge those Debts & the Moneys due to Carpenters & other workmen but to procure supplies in future.

We have had some disputes between the Light Horse who are stationed here & the Militia Guards, one of the Dragoons in attempting to force his way into the Guard House at the Barracks was the other day killed by the Centry on duty there, & as they seem to speak of revenge, the Inhabitants seem apprehensive of some further mischief. I have no doubt but their officers will do every thing in their power to keep them in order, & am persuaded the Militia will be watchful, but should a party of those people attack the Guard in the night (which was apprehended & beleived to have been their intention a few nights since,) the Prisoners would probably take that opportunity to force their way from the Barracks, & the consequences would be bad. This consideration has induced me to order the Blockhouses at the four Corners of the Stockade to be put in order, so that the whole of the militia, ordered for Guards as well those on as those off duty, may live in them, & not be scattered thro' the Town by Billets, they will then be ready at their Posts in case of any alarm & will have a better eye on the conduct of the Prisoners.

A fall from my Horse which hurt my Leg badly has detained me from York Court, but I intend, (tho contrary to the advice of my Physician) to set off for Carlisle, lest I should be charged with neglect of duty.

I am Dear Sir,

with great esteem your most obedt. Servt.

WILL. ATLEE.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania,

Wm. Henry to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, May, the 26th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

It is paying me a greater Compliment than my poor abilitys have any Clame to, to ask my opinion on the present intricate state of our affairs. I will however give it without further apology. The principal Reasons why our paper Money is in so little Repute with the people seems to be the following. Government has not Specie to circulate with the Paper, nor can they at any Time exchange a considerable part of it for Specie. The natural Basis of all paper Credit is Specie, and the value we put on paper is in proportion to the Quantity of Specie it will purchase. Therefore some Method should be taken to procure at least part of the Revenue in Specie, this is not impracticable—Why cannot Tavern Licences, Marriage Licences, and Licences for distilling Grain be paid in Specie. The petitioner has one whole Year to provide the Money and his private Interest will stimulate him to it; It is true as the Laws now stand no Man is obliged to take a Licence for Distilling Grain, but would it not be good policy to enact such a Law and thereby oblige the owners of Stills above a certain Size, to have them registerd in the Counties where they live, this would enable Government to form an Estimation of the Amount of this part of the Revenue, which I am persuaded they cannot at present. Under the late Government the Excise on Spirituous Liquors was said to be worth £6000 ℔ Annum. If Licences aforesaid were raised 50 ℔ Ct. this would bring in a handsome Revenue without distressing the Subjects & would be attended with good Consequences to the people at large in preventing a number of Dram Shops being kept which at present are a Nuisance, and would be ample Security to any Gentleman at home or abroad for the payment of a sum of Money to answer the present Exigencies of Government. Might not all Fines and Forfeitures in Courts of Justice be paid in Specie and the Dutys on foreign Imports might be paid in specie or Merchandize suitable for the Support of the Army.

The Government have put paper into the hands of people and ought to receive from them again in Taxes though not at a depreciated Value. To prevent this, the Taxes ought to be laid in Specie made payable in Wheat at a certain Value in proportion to the Distance from the Market, or the Value in paper to be ascertained by Council weekly and to prevent Fraud in Collectors &c., they ought to give printed Receits to the people and deliver in to the Commissioners of the Tax an Account of all Monies by them received and the Time when, which would enable the Commissioners often to detect the Collectors, and the same Method would be of use in Collecting Militia Fines and prevent numerous abuses which have happened. Collectors of Taxes and Militia Monies ought to be pun

ishable by Fine or Imprisonment or both for extorting more Money from the people than the Law requires, which there is every Reason to believe is practiced, especially amongst the Germans. When I wrote in favour of the Tender Law, as it is called, I meant such a one as would in some degree have been adequate to the purpose, which the present is not, it is too tedious in its operation to be of any use at present, the Best calculated would not answer any good purpose, Therefore it ought to be repealed, for it is big with a number of Evils, The Money being so much depreciated. The Fees of Commissioners of the Taxes, Collectors, Township assessors, appraisers, &c., should be set by the Assembly in Specie or the value for they are all again dirainged by the Depreciation. If the Tender Act is repealed Government may then receive the Monies outstanding for unpatented Lands at Specie Value which they ought, and it will not be necessary to leave these Moneys as a Fund for the £500,000 for that will depreciate to very little before it can be collected in Taxes. But I have perhaps said more than enough.

I have the Honour to be
Sir your real Friend
and very hum. Servant,
WILLIAM HENRY.

P. S., Mr. Wirtz gives Certificates to the Collectors of the Taxes for the Wheat delivered by the people. I offered to pay his Draughts in favour of the Collectors, but he declines. This with some other Circumstances occassions me think he intends to keep the Grain for his private Use; this prevents the Collectors from Settling their Accounts with the Board and gives them much unnecessary Trouble and Expence.

Directed,

To His Excellency Joseph Reed Esquire.

Resolutions of Congress on National Bank, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

May 26th, 1781.

Resolved,

That Congress do approve of the plan for establishing a national Bank in these United States, submitted to their Consideration by Mr. R. Morris, the 17th day of May, 1781, and that they will promote and support the same by such Ways and Means from time to time as may appear necessary for the Institution and consistent with the public Good.

That the Subscribers to the said Bank shall be incorporated agreeably to the Principles and Forms of the plan, under the Name of "The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of North America," so soon as the Subscription shall be filled, the Directors and president chosen, and application for that purpose made to Congress by the President and directors elected.

Resolved,

That it be recommended to the several States by proper Laws for that purpose, to provide that no other Bank or Bankers shall be established or permitted within the said States respectively, during the War.

Resolved,

That the Notes hereafter to be issued by the said Bank, payable on demand, shall be receivable in payment of all Taxes, duties, and debts due or that may become due or payable to the United States.

Resolved,

That Congress will recommend to the several Legislatures to pass Laws making it felony without Benefit of Clergy, for any person to counterfeit Bank Notes, or to pass such Notes knowing them to be counterfeit; Also making it felony without Benefit of Clergy, for any president, Inspector, director, officer or Servant of the Bank, to convert any of the Property, Money or Credit of the said Bank to his own Use, or in any other Way, to be guilty of fraud or Embezzlement as an Officer or Servant of the Bank.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Gen. Wayne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Yorktown, 26th May, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I steal a moment whilst the troops are marching thro' the town to acknowledge your favor of the 21st *Instant, & to thank you for the Inclosed intelligence.

We have a rumour this moment from Baltimore that Genl. Philips & Lord Cornwallis have formed a junction in Virginia, which is very probable, as they were but Eighty miles apart yesterday two weeks.

I am happy to Inform you that harmony & Discipline again pervades the Line—to which a prompt and examplary punishment was a painful tho' necessary prelude.

* See page 155.

I must beg leave to refer you to Genl. Irvine for particulars, who can procure a Return of the Detachment from the Board of War if necessary.

Permit me to wish you all happiness, & to believe me yours most sincerely,

ANTy WAYNE.

Directed,

Public service.
Joseph Reed, Esqr, Prest Pennsa.
Genl. Irvine.

Pres. Reed to John Nicholson, 1781.

Sir,

Should this Letter find you at Lancaster or beyond it, we hope you will stop & wait farther Instructions. The Assembly at the last Sessions passed a Supplement to the Depreciation Act by which one third of that Money was to be paid down—the Certificates now granted to be taken up & new ones issued bearing Interest. The many Errors made by the Country Commissioners have induced the Council to make it necessary that yourself or Mr. Stevenson should allways be one of the Auditors. Erroneous Certificates may be recalled, but Money once paid is gone forever, & therefore great Circumspection must be used. Herewith you will receive £ & Instructions together with a Transcript of the Law—Should there not be Money sufficient in the Hands of either of the Commissioners to pay the Gratuity or Bounty you will assist them from this Stock rather than any of the Men should be detained.—We have not yet been able to procure the Prisoners Accounts, but hope we shall be able to do it very soon. You will please to close all the Depreciation Settlements conformable to our Instructions, bringing back all the blank Certificates & Papers.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,

May 25, 1781.

Directed,

John Nicholson, Esqr, Auditor of Accounts.

THOMAS ANDERSON TO JOHN ARNDT, 1781.

Easton, 26th May, 1781.

Sir,

Since the detachment of the third Pennsylvania Regiment marched, which was the 12th of this present month, the Remainder part of them Draws, ℔ Day, fifty-three Rations.

Return of Provisions Issued to the Remainder part of the Third Pennsylvania Regiment, viz. :

On whose order issued.	Days.	Rations pr. Day.	Total of Rations.	Beef.	Flour.	
	No.	No.	No.	lb.	lb.	
Capt. Bush,	14	753	742	556½	927½	Including the officers.

THOM^s ANDERSON,
A. C. of Issues.

Directed,
To John Arndt, Esqr.

SECRETARY MATLACK TO CAPT. BOYS, 1781.

Philadelphia, May 28, 1781.

Sir,

I am ordered by His Excellency the President, and Council, to request that you will give orders to Capt. Roach to return to this city; the occasion of his being ordered there, no longer requiring him to continue there.

You will please to make use of the first opportunity of communicating this order to Capt. Roach.

I am, &c.,
T. M., Sec'y.

Directed,
To Capt. Boys.

PRES. REED TO MONS. HOLKER, 1781.

Council Chamber, May 28, 1781

Sir.

The March of the Pennsylvania Line & other Business of the Council now gives us Leisure to consider your Letters of the 28th March—But before we proceed it will be proper to remark that by

giving you a Note of the particulars which had been the Causes of Dissatisfaction with your Conduct, it was not intended to enter into a written altercation with you. Having no personal Prejudice nor private Views it would have given us Pleasure to rectify any Misapprehensions we had of your publick Conduct, but we could not expect that under an Appearance of Vindication, the Opportunity should be taken to recriminate upon ourselves. The Circumstances of this case cannot in our Opinion dispense with the Rules of Propriety & Respect, & which have ever been observed towards you in this State—we may justly add that they have been extended even to Tenderness of your Character & Office, both of which would have been affected by your Interference in the Party Disputes of this State, as related in the publick papers of the 29th of July, 1779, by which it appeared that you communicated Official papers in the most publick manner to a number of Citizens convened at a time of great party disputes, and of which we should not now remind you if your Deportment had corresponded with the Professions you then made. When you insinuate that we have any other Motives than such as arise from publick Duty—when you apply the term *extraordinary*, *surprising*, &c. &c., to our Representation permit us to say, Sir, it is in our Opinion a Deviation from that Line of Propriety which our Stations entitle us to expect, nor can we conceive the public Interests by any Means advanced thereby. But our Sense for the manner will not prevent our paying due Attention to the Matter, & therefore we shall remark on the several Particulars as they stand in your Memorial or Address.—You observe & least we should overlook it again, repeat that it is *extraordinary* the Council should have addressed any Complaint of Mr. Ethcart to Admiral Terny, as he was not accountable to him or with Respect to yourself to any other than the Minister of the Royal Marine, who alone can pronounce definitively on your Conduct; that you would have transmitted the former to Mr. Ethcart's proper superior, and that the Chev. de Luzerne is the proper Person to transmit any Complaint against yourself. To this we answer that these were Circumstances with which we were unacquainted. We were informed that Mr. Ethcart a Lieu^t in the Navy was bound to Rhode Island, and therefore presumed he would fall under the Direction of the Admiral. From your former Relation to Monsr Gerard, who had a Commission of Consul Gen^r under which your appointment as Deputy was derived, it was natural to suppose the same Relation subsisted between the present Minister, & especially as we do not recollect that you have ever communicated to us any new Powers since Mr. Gerard's Departure.—Mr. Ethcart having sailed without making the Report required by Law, and as we understood to Rhode Island we applied to the Chev. de la Luzerne who recommended or at least approved the Application to the Admiral not merely as a Complaint, but that as you were all on the Spot together you might from them supply the Defects at the Custom House by sending as

good a Report as the Circumstances would admit. Our Letter to the Admiral was sent to the Minister to be forwarded, but we never received any answer. As to yourself it was proposed to let every Matter rest till your Return. At this Interview we were first informed of your acting under a Commission derived immediately from the Marine of France & therefore have never since made any application to the Minister concerning you. With Respect to the Mode of forwarding any Complaints to the Court of France, as we have a special Agent from the State in Europe, we shall most probably transmit them to him whenever such a Step becomes necessary, in any Event we certainly shall be very unwilling to trouble you with them.—We beg leave to rectify your mistake in supposing The Chevalier de Luzerne during your Absence made the Intimation as expressed in your Letter—he requested the affair might rest till your Return on which we readily acquiesced; you returned, a considerable Time elapsed, & no notice was taken of it; the President then spoke to Mr. Morris for the sake of Information, & the next Day the Minister sent a Note of which the enclosed is a Translation, to which the Answer also enclosed was sent—Having then expressed a Concurrence with the Proposition of a Conference, we daily expected it but instead of a verbal Discussion, have received a written Remonstrance from you, which we may probably send to the Minister of the Royal Marine together with a copy of this Reply.—Having acknowledged that it was Mr. Ethcart's Duty to have obeyed the Laws of the Country you say that if it is our Opinion that any material Injury will result, or a bad Precedent be established by his Neglect, you will transmit a Memorial against him—it is our Opinion Sir, that material Injury results to any Country from a Disobedience of its Laws, & especially in this Case when the only Law we have for regulating Trade, was violated in its most essential Part—The Precedent may also be dangerous as you intimate. Mr. Ethcart claimed an Exemption in Virtue of being a Crown Officer. Should you in your official Capacity think proper to make any Representation, we have no objection. But after what has passed we do not choose to commit ourselves by any further Complaint. In the Letter Mr. Ethcart wrote, and which was transmitted to the Chev. Ternay, he imputed Blame to you, it is possible he will do the same now—or instead of receiving satisfaction we may again find recrimination. But to come to the Transaction itself—your Reasons do not appear to us as satisfactory as we could wish. The Facts are that you went to the Naval Office with the Captain on his Arrival, when you promised the Officer that all necessary Communications should be made. Mr. Ethcart was a stranger to the Country & the Language, and must necessarily depend in no small Degree upon you in your joint Capacity of Agent & Consul. The Communication not being made but the Cargoes discharged, the Naval Officer applied to you without Effect. He complained to the President who wrote you on the Occasion, to him you repeated the Promise that it should be done—but

it was not done & the Vessels departed the Port—Nothing appears to us to show your Compliance with these Promises but writing a Letter to Mr. Ethcart. But you say you did every possible Thing, & that the Chev^r de Luzerne is of the same Opinion—we must beg leave to differ from his Excell'y and yourself on this Occasion & having pointed out what you might have done, we are pursuaded his Candour and good sense will induce him to retract a sentiment perhaps hastily formed. Having pledged yourself for Mr. Ethcarts Obedience to the Law—you became engaged, & we could not but look principally to you. *Or*—We think you might have applied to the Chev^r de Luzerne to have used his Authority—if that had failed or was insufficient there was Time to have applied to Mr. Ethcart's commanding Officer at Rhode Island, for though Mr. Ethcarts proper Command might be in the West Indies, yet being in North America & refusing Compliance with the Laws of the Country, we cannot but think that sufficient Authority might have been found with the Minister or the Admiral, or both, to have effected the necessary Business, & especially with that of the Country to enforce & support them. But supposing all these to have failed, something farther might have been done—Might it not have been justly expected in such a Case, that in discharge of your Promise you would have represented the circumstances, the Difficulty or Impossibility of performing it, and then a farther Thing in your Power was possible—because that thing was afterwards done as the best Expedient & accepted by the State. You could have made such a Report from the Materials in your Reach as you afterwards did, & then & not till then you could justly have said that you had done every possible Thing in your Power. By this y^u would have given perfect satisfaction to us, realized your Professions of Respect to the Government, & saved this disagreeable Discussion. We are therefore constrained to say with due Respect to his Excelles'y opinion that your Explanations are not satisfactory to us on this Point.

The next is the Affair of Gen. Arnold—not seeking Causes of Complaint against you, we were pleased to find, & as ready to express, our Satisfaction in any Particular favourable to you. Our Candour on this Occasion is turned into Reproach, & you are *surprised* that we should have any Uneasiness, or intimate any to the Minister. At that Time, only a Part of Arnold's Papers had been delivered to us, a much greater Proportion having remained with the Agent of confiscated Estates—by those we had, he expressly charged you with being concerned with him in that Vessel which has been the Subject of so much Dispute & Trouble to Congress & the Council. The Impropriety of such a Step you seem to be sensible of; for in a Letter to the Arbitrators dated 25 April, 1780, you say it promised fair to compromise your publick Character; but it was explained, & we acquiesced in the Explanation. Was it not more favourable to afford this Opp^y to remove an Impression, than that it should silently have fixed itself on the Minds of the Council to your

Prejudice? We should think an Acknowledgment more natural from you to the Council, than an offensive Stricture. Even at this Time, were we disposed to remark upon your Conduct in this Business, we might justly say, that it could hardly have been expected, that when a Prosecution was depending ag^t Gen. Arnold for a criminal Purchase of this Vessel, which he had not only solemnly denied, but that Denial had been supported (as now appears) by Perjury before the Grand Jury, in a Court of Justice, all which were well known in this City—We say it could hardly have been expected, that the Consul of France would have made himself so much a Party in the Business, as to treat about a Purchase of that very Article which Arnold had, in the most solemn Manner, denied his having any Interest [in] it, & about which he & his Friends were making such a Clamor, & charging the Council with a malicious Prosecution. For that you were not ignorant of Arnold's Fears, that some Discovery would be made, appears by your Letter to the Arbitrators, wherein you say, "That (on or about the 25 April, 1779,) he "informed you that he must pay near £5,000 more of their (meaning "the Claimants of the Vessel) outstanding Debts, so as to send the "People out of Town, & hinder them selling their Shares to other "Persons, which would have made publick at that critical Juncture, "Gen. Arnold's Situation with Respect to this Business." Could it have been supposed Gen. Arnold would have made this Communication to a publick foreign Officer who wish'd to be on good Terms with the Government, or that such an Officer would not, for the Sake of Justice & the Honour of the Government, which he frequently heard reproached on this Account, have in some prudent Way disclosed it; much less that he should even seem to concur in a Measure which tended to get the Witnesses out of the Way, the Fraud remain undetected, & the Charge made by the Council unsupported?

With Respect to your Absence at Boston, so as to be unacquainted with the Charges of the Council ag^t Arnold, by adverting to Dates you will see that you was in the City when the Complaint originated; when it was Matter of publick Conversation, & the Charges published in all the News Papers; &, as one of Gen. Arnold's Friends, could not be ignorant of so remarkable an Occurrence. It was even at this very Time you gave him that Mark of Friendship in lending him £12,000, which you charge him with endeavouring to defraud you of. Aferwards, Gen. Arnold was summoned to answer the Complaint ag^t him the 20th Jan'y. Mr Clarkson to appear the 25th (the very Day you lent the Money)—the Charges were published on the third of Feb^ry following, during all which Time you certainly was in this City, & from your Connections & Character could not be ignorant of so remarkable an Occurrence. In April following, Gen. Arnold addressed you in the Terms above quoted.

But, not having made it an Article of Complaint before, we are content to overlook it now; nor should we have entered into it, if it

had not been turned into Recrimination on ourselves. On this Point you have also some Obligations to the Minister, whose Benevolence induced him to vindicate you, even before he was fully acquainted with the Part you had taken in Gen. Arnold's Affairs.

With Respect to the 3d Article, it is so important to the State, & the Answer is so short & peremptory, that we must beg Leave to take particular Notice of it, and first state the Facts. Agreeable to the Recommendation of Congress & the Law of the State, an Embargo was laid on the Exportations of all Provisions from this State—reserving to the Council a Power, upon Application, to grant Permission to export for the special Use of the Army or Marine of France—Our Complaint is, that this Indulgence, which was denied to our own Citizens, & was of a more publick Nature, was turned to private Emolument—the Permission being obtained for French Merchants, under such slight Restrictions, as evaded the Law: To which you answer, that what you have done was with the Knowledge, Consent, & positive Directions of the Minister. We cannot help remarking, that your Relation to his Excelly must be of a very particular Nature, as you declined his Authority to censure or control you; but find it not only sufficient, but necessary, to justify & approve you. If you act under his Directions & Authority, why are we referred in a former Part of your Address to the Minister of the Marine, as your immediate Superior? But with Respect to the Transaction itself—Mr Oellers's Affidavit, sent herewith, proves the indirect Mode referred to above. A Mr Raguest (a Merchant of Note in Town, & of your own Nation) gave still farther in his Information, alledging that you insisted on his purchasing the Flour from you at a very high Price, which is supported by your own Order in favour of your partner, Mr Turnbul; that you got the Permission in the usual Form; that when the Flour reached the West Indies it was not of the customary Quality; & he had the Benefit of selling it on his private Account—A Privilege which no American Merchant could have obtained, or ever did obtain, during the Continuance of the Embargo.

If the Chevalier de la Luzerne, being acquainted with the Law, the exclusive Privilege given the Army & Navy of France, & the Circumstances of Shipment, as above set forth, knew, approved & instructed you therein, we shall readily agree that your Conduct will appear much less exceptionable than at present—And when such Instructions, Knowledge & Approbation of your Conduct are communicated, we shall be able to form a better Judgment how far your particular Conduct deserves Praise or Censure. But we must beg Leave to add, that no Authority, however respectable, will alone convince us of the Necessity or Propriety of your selling Flour to others, to ship under a publick Indulgence, in such a Manner as to give them the Benefit of a private Sale, when you might have shipped the Flour yourself in the usual Mode on Freight; or that 5 ⅌ Ct should be demanded in the other Case as a kind of Gratuity for obtaining the Permission of Council, & the Transaction put on so loose a Footing as to leave

much in the Power of the Shippers, with an eventual Advantage to the Owners of selling it on private Account. The slightest Observation must show that this was not the Intention of the Law, & that it must open a Door to innumerable Partialities, Frauds & Abuses. Had we been favored with any Intimation on the Subject, we are perswaded we could have convinced you that a real Injury to the State & much Discontent, must necessarily result from transacting the Business of Supply in these Modes. And as we have ever facilitated your Views in the Supply of the Fleet & Army, we apprehend some Attention of this Nature might possibly have been expected, which would, at least, have prevented this disagreeable Discussion.—Should the Minister of France think proper to make us any Communications on this Subject, we shall receive them with the Respect & Attention due to his Rank & Character—His Intentions we know are pure & disinterested, & if properly informed, we can repose much Confidence in the Wisdom & Prudence of his Measures.

We come now to the last Particular viz. The cutting Masts on the Schuylkill & its Consequences in alarming & distressing the Inhabitants of this State by the consequent Inroads of the savages.

Whether you were interested in the Contract or not was a Point unknown to us & equally immaterial, Tho' we observe your denial of being interested seems also to be qualified by the words being concerned in Masts & Spars, *as such* we consider the subject only in a publick view. And in this Case, as in the former one, must regret your not communicating to us your Views & Intentions in a Matter which is now represented to be of great publick Importance. In that case we could have either taken the necessary Precautions of security & Defence so as to avoid alarming the People, or if that was impracticable have pointed out the dangers to be apprehended & which would have doubtless induced you to take other Measures. If the Business was of national Importance it was reasonable & natural to have communicated it to the authority of the State in the first instance. If it was only of private concern we see no Reason why publick authority should be called upon in the last instance to furnish guards & incur publick Expence in a Matter perfectly unknown & calculated for private emolument. We have lately been informed, that many of these Masts were cut on the lands of Individuals residing in those Parts that the Name & Authority of the Consul of France was used to pacify the People who were from the Beginning much averse to the Business but submitted out of Respect to the supposed authority under which it was conducted. We can see no resemblance between this & the case of purchasing Provisions at Baltimore or elsewhere, & such Comparison can only be attributed to your unacquaintance with the subject, & the nature of Indian Depredations. If Individuals alone deriving no Benefit nor Weight from your Name & Office had attempted to cut these Masts it is highly probable they would have been interrupted by the Inhabitants of the Country: but if they

had still continued, their Protection & safety must have been procured at their own Expence & Risque not from the Publick. Whereas in the present Mode a valuable settlement has been disturbed & an Expence in Consequence necessarily incurred by the State in a Business, the publick utility of which tho' now represented in strong Language was not thought of sufficient Importance to be even communicated to the authority of the State, untill Mischief & Consequences ensued naturally to be expected by those who are acquainted with the subject. You observe in a Marginal note that when you made application for protection no notice was taken that Masts were publick Property or that the cutting them would be likely to induce an Invasion from the Savages. Upon Recollection we believe you will find this application was not made till the Inhabitants were alarmed by the savages that for some time no answer was given but the intervening space was employed in making Inquiry into the Circumstances of the Case, when it appeared that a settlement of industrious People who had lived unmolested till this time were alarmed by the Accounts received from the Enemy in which the Destruction of these Masts was ment[d] as the inducing object of Attack—soon after actual Devastation took Place in that Quarter & the Militia was necessarily called for the Relief & Support to the Settlers at an Expense of £1000 specie to the State, And some Persons removed with their Families to the interior Parts of the Country. When the President & other Commissioners went into that County last Fall formal Complaints were made on the Subject & it was at the same time observed that it was the Opinion of many judicious Persons that the Difficulty of Navigation would probably forever prevent the Masts being brought down for use a circumstance which if true is the more to be lamented after the trouble & dissatisfaction which has arisen in the transaction. We do not wish or expect you to become responsible for the deeds of those Persons who may engage to provide you with Articles for your Department farther than you make yourself a Party to the Transactions or make your Office subservient to the Views of Individuals in Matters prejudicial to Interests & Honor of the State, in such Cases we do & shall hold you responsible & regulate ourselves accordingly. The Approbation of the Minister of France is again introduced to sanctify your conduct in this particular. We cannot but presume you are entitled to this Use of his name & Influence on this Occasion. And therefore shall only say that his Approbation must naturally depend on his Information, & we are well persuaded he would be of a different opinion if properly informed. But be that as it may while we administer the Government of Pennsylvania we must with due Respect to other publick Characters be permitted to exercise a Judgm[t] of our own, if we cannot our boasted Independance will be of little Value to us. We cannot therefore comply with your Expectations in affording you our approbation in this Particular; but do most expressly caution you against entering or continuing any Measures which in their natural Course may

involve the Inhabitants of the Frontiers in Distress or the State in Expence. Every Person acquainted with America would inform you that while subject to Great Brittain the Masts for the British Navy were cut in the Eastern States where the Navy of France now is, & we will venture to say that there never was a Kings Ship of War masted out of the Delaware or Schuylkill since the settlement of the Country. We think therefore it might be reasonably doubted whether in any Event you could have had the satisfaction of informing the Minister or the Commanders of the Kings ships that you had Masts in your Possession that would suit their present & future Purposes. We look upon the whole to be a Measure of private Emolument, the first attempt of the kind and worthy of Notice, & the Success of which would have been doubtful in time of profound Tranquility but at this Time peculiarly hazardous & improper.

Your Remarks are concluded by a Question formed in the same Style & Spirit which marks your whole Performance, viz. Whether there are any other Causes of Uneasiness & Dissatisfaction than those expressed on this occasion? Tho' we might with the utmost Propriety overlook a Question evidently proceeding from a different Motive than from a candid Desire of Explanation & Satisfaction, we shall shortly say that the Causes of Dissatisfaction with you have been many, that it is with us to judge how far we ought to make them the subjects of public complaint, that our Reluctance to enter into any Disputes with you induced us to pass them by at the Time, & we shall exercise the same Right of Judgment how far we may revive them at present or in future.

We shall now conclude this Discussion with two Observations, both, in our Opinion, materially connected with the publick Interests, & which tho' they may not at this Time meet with the Attention due to them will probably be remembered at a future Day when Events shall have given more general Information & Accuracy of Judgment. The first is That a Person deeply engaged in private Trade & Commerce himself is in our Judgment an unsuitable Character to exercise the Offices of Council or publick Agent, & especially at a Time when Restrictions being laid on the Rest of the Community it is in his Power & very much his Interest to avail himself of Opportunities of acquiring Wealth out of the usual & ordinary Course of Business. That Jealousies & Dissatisfactions have been frequent on the Subject both in Maryland & this State, you cannot be ignorant; We are sorry to be obliged to express our Opinion that subsequent Events & Observations have not lessened them. Our second Remark is That we consider it as a great Misfortune to any Country & particularly to this, that a Person invested with publick Character should take an open decisive Part in the local & internal Concerns of the State, & more especially when that Part is against the Government & Persons in publick Authority. Republican Governments are in their Nature subject to Parties. Pennsylvania has been peculiarly so, & it might perhaps require an

unusual Share of Prudence to be wholly exempt from their Influences —but we are sorry to remark & your own Reflexion will we are sure bear Testimony with us, that you formed an early & intimate Connection with the Opposition to the growing Powers of this State, which has given a Complexion to your whole Department & Conduct, both private & official. That in several Instances it has been obvious in the Persons you select for the inferior Transaction of your Business who have been distinguished for their Enmity to the Governmt, & some for their Dissafection to the Cause of America & the Interests of the Alliance: We have nothing to do with your private Friendships or particular Civilities, nor do we include them in our Remarks—we refer to the Demonstrations made during your three Years Residence among us in which you have on several Occasions shewn the Interest & Concern you take in the local Concerns & Party Disputes of this State, giving your Influence & Weight as far as you could against the Government, & those administering it, & at particular Seasons scarcely preserving Appearances.

We shall now only add that we shall on every Occasion honour the Commission of his most Christian Majesty, & in every Thing which concerns that render you every Service & Attention in our Power, most sincerely regretting that we cannot extend our Esteem farther without doing Violence to our Judgments & Feelings. Nor shall we continue farther a Discussion which under an appearance of seeking Explanation & Harmony has been applied to Purposes of an opposite Nature, & for which we have so little Time or Inclination.

Hon. James Potter to Pres. Reed 1781.

Middle Creek, May 28th, 1781.

Dr. Sir,

I am sorry to heare of the Disturbance that subsists at present in your City, but Cast your eye over any part of our unfortunate Cuntrey and you will see them abound, but the time will come when we will Get Read of them all.

Captn. Robinson has Reased for the war forty-seven men, and for seven months eighteen men, Groves has got for seven months fifteen men, and one Magrudy has reaised twenty men for seven months.

Captn. Robinson has too many men for two officers to Command considering the way they must be devided. Mr. Samuel Quin has been doing the duty of an Ensign in this Company since the first of this month he is well Recommended by the Captn. and Colo. Hunter for the Commission; I hope Council will Grant it to him. The Company is in want of every Kind of Clothing nessesery for a soldier, many of them are so naked that they are unfit for any kind of duty.

* See pages 9, 31—also Vol. VIII.

I flatter myself that you will be able to send Cloaes and money by Mr. Quinn as much as will pay them, and the seven months men to the first of June, Mr. Jordan, Paymaster for this County, has been obledged to leve the Country, I apprehend it will be necessary to appoint another, if Council thinks so, I would make mention of Mr. Robert Modey who has been drove from his living and is now in Sunbury. I hope the Council have ordered out some militia to Releve those that are Stationed on the frunteers whose time of service will be Expired about the tenth of June. The Demand this year for Guards seemes Greater than the last, the Inhabitants being fewer in number it Requiers a large number of soldiers to be together at one place.

I am Sir with the most sincere Regard,
and esteem your Excellency obdt. and,
Humble Servant,
JAS. POTTER.

P. S. Sir, it is the opinion of sundry of the people of this County that Captn. Robinson and his men should be stationed at Moncey as it would be more Conveniant to entersept the Indians and scouting partys under Groves, and others would be more Conveniant to entersept the enemy—please to favour us with your sentiments on this subject, it would be agreeble to the Capt. if he was sent out as he thinks he Could do Better with his men.

J. P.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, President of the Council.
Favoured by Mr. Samuel Quinn.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United State in Congress assembled.

May 28th, 1781.

On Motion of the Delegates of Pensylvania.

Resolved,

That Tench Francis be added to Mr Thomas Smith, and Mr Richard Bache, and that any one of them be authorized on Behalf of the United States, to sign the Bills of Credit issued by the Common Wealth of Pensylvania, pursuant to the Act of Congress of the 18th of March, 1780.

Extract from the Minutes,
CHAS. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Directed,
Common Wealth of Pennsylva.

Adam Orth to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lebanon, May 30th, 1781.

Sir,

I thought Proper to make a Stop in the Collection of Militia Arrearages, until I am Furnished with Positive direction from his Excellency the President & Honble Council, on Account of an Act of Genl Assembly, calling all Old Congress Money out of circulation by the first of June, and a large Sum amounting to upwards of One Hundred Thousand Pounds is uncollected in Lancaster County,—Therefore I would esteem it a Particular Favour if your excellency would be Pleased to grant me Proper Instructions,—whether I am to collect according to the Scale of Depreciation issued by Genl Assembly or not.

I am with respect
your Exelcy most Obt & very Hble Sert,
ADAM ORTH.

Directed,—On Public Service,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr. Presit of the Supreme Exec Council, Philadelphia.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War office, May 30th, 1781.

Sir,

The Board do themselves the honour to transmit to you, a resolution of Congress of the 23rd instant, also, a resolution of the 11th of April last, by which you will discover that they depend upon the arrears of specific supplies for the last Campaign which have not yet been furnished by the different States to make good their engagements with the Court of France.

As the honour and faith of the United States is so materially concerned, there is every reason to expect the most decided exertions in the States to enable Congress to comply with their contracts.

The Board request you will be pleased to acquaint them with your expectation on this head and what they may probably depend on.

I have the honor to be with the
highest respect Sir, Yr most Obedt
& Very Hble Servt,
WILLM. GRAYSON.

Directed,—Public Service,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of the State of Pensylvania.
War Office.

Pres. Reed to Field Officers, &c., 1781.

Gentlemen,

I am much obliged to you for this favourable mark of your attention & Regard. The succession of Calumnies which you so generously reprobate must I fear have some other object than the Ruin of a single Individual who would otherwise be raised into very elevated & underserved Consequence. But this free & unsolicited Proof of your Confidence & good opinion will I hope effectually counteract such machinations if any there are. The Happiness of my Country is the first object of my Wishes, the approbation of the wise & virtuous is the next, & I must confess the Attempts to deprive me of the only Reward I seek for services which have at least the Merit of Fidelity & honest Intention have given me some Pain. Your kind assurances which are supported & confirmed from various Parts of the Country, & which have been frequently repeated during my administration have set my mind at Ease, & while they authorize me to say I do not deserve ill at the Hands of my Countrymen will encourage me to persevere in that Line of Conduct which you have approved.

Causeless Reproach, Obloquy & even Death itself have been the Lot of many virtuous Citizens in all States, & under all Governments. May we not hope it is reserved to America to exhibit to the world the new & yet unseen spectacle that the Virtue of our citizens will afford ample Protection & Support to public office, while honestly administered, & publick Character, while chastly prerserved against all the Assaults of malevolence & Faction. With every sentiment of Regard & Esteem,

I am Gentlemen you oblig'd & Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

JOS. REED.

Indorsed,

May 31, 1781.—From the President to the Field Officers of the Militia & others.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

In Council, Philad^a, June 2, 1781.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 30th of May, have with the resolves of Congress therein enclosed been laid before the Council, and I am sorry to say that in the present state of our Treasury it is not in the power of the Executive to comply with these recommendations of Congress.

The applications shall however, be laid before the General Assembly immediately, and the determination of the house communicated to you without delay.

To the Honble Board of War.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United States in Congress Assembled, June 2d, 1781.

Resolved,

That all bills of Credit which issue in pursuance of the Act of the 18th March, 1780, in any of the States after the expiration of one year from the time the Interest on such bills begins to be computed, be marked by writing or stamping before they are issued with the words or characters. "Int. pd one or 1st year."

That such of the said bills as have already issued or may issue in the course of a year from the time Interest begins to be computed on them be, when such Interest is paid, marked in like manner, to prevent the necessity and expense of exchanging them.

That where any State has adopted similar adequate provisions, these shall not operate.

That the several States suspend as far as possible the issuing of such part of their respective quotas of the said bills as remain to be issued.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHAS. THOMSON, Secretary.

Pres. Reed to Gen. Assembly, 1781.

June 2, 1781

Sir,

It is with great concern, I find myself under the Necessity of recalling the attention of the Hon. House to a Subject which I hoped would have been buried in Oblivion, I mean the Mutiny of the Pennsylv. Line last Winter, Seeking no Praise, but as I conceive deserving, no Censure for the Transaction as conducted by Gen. Potter & myself, I find Prejudices diffused injurious, not only to our publick Characters, but to the Interest & Credit of the Government. I am therefore to request the House would be pleased to reappoint a Committee of inquiry, upon whose Report the Sense of the Legislature may be publickly declared; If it shall appear that the Welfare of the State, the Rights of the Officers or the more general Interest of America, have been wantonly, or ignorantly sacrificed, we are content, & it will be the Duty of the House to affix a mark of Disapprobation upon our Measures; if otherwise Justice & Candour will we Trust equally lead to justify & approve. As some Gentlemen whose Presence may be necessary are about leaving Town on public Duty, I must beg the Favour of the House to Expedite the Execution of my Request, if it meets, with approbation.

I am Sir, with great Respect &

Your Obed. Hble Serv.

Gen. Clark to Officers in Westmoreland Co., 1781.

Crossings, 3d June, 1781.

Gentlemen.

I have the pleasure to learn from Report that the officers of Westmoreland are determined to fall on some mode of Distressing the Savages this Campaign, Either by a separate Expedition or giving assistance to the one I am ordered to Execute. From Circumstances I am enduced to give Credit to these Reports, which is my Reason for writing to you on the subject as a union of Interests may facilitate both and End in the general good. My present object is the Shawanees Delawares and Sandusky towns. The Delawares of the Muskingum have moved to the west of the Scyoto River, and those formerly living up the Allegany to Sandusky. If you could by Draughts attack the Sandusky towns about the same time we make a diversion on the Shawanee, and Delaware Countries, it might be attended with good Consequences. Both armies would then be but a small distance apart, by forming a Junction might perhaps take some Effectual measure to put an End to the Indian war which I am determined to do if Supported by those whom it ought most to Concern. Each party might facilitate the opperations of the other and divide the Indian Interest so as to fall an Easy prey to us. I wished to see Col^o Hays on this subject but he was not good Enough to Call on me altho very near me, (I suppose—the old Story)—but should you find that it will be out of your powers to get supplies in time for an Expedition of such a length it would be advisable to take such measures as to Enable the one army to Execute the whole. If a general & Valuable peace in this Quarter should not take place this fall it will be the fault of the Inhabitants, and believe it to be the last attempt made. If Rediculous prejudice is laid aside, and our strength Exerted there is a Certainty of it by the fall. Capt Harrison waits on you with this letter and will Receive your answers. The Resolution you may take I would wish to know Immediately by him, as no time must be delayed the season is far advanced.

I Have the Honor To be Dr Gentleman, Your Humbl. Servt

GEO. CLARK, Bg.

Directed,—On public service. To the Council of Officers, Westmoreland Co. Hon^d by Cap. Harrison.

Gov. Jefferson, of Virginia, to Pres. Reed.

Charlottesville, June 3, 1781.

Sir.

The proposition made in your Excellency's letter of May 14th for deferring the ultimate settlement of our boundary till the 1st of May 1782, is perfectly agreeable. The observations necessary to fix it

with accuracy could not be made in the present season. I also concur in the further proposal to extend Mason & Dixons line twenty three miles by an ordinary surveyor, & to have it marked in the slightest manner to answer present purposes, for this end I have written to the Surveyor of the county of Monongalia, who will concur in the work with any person whom your Excellency shall be pleased to appoint on your part. These gentlemen may settle together the time of proceeding on the business.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect.

*

DAVID DUNCAN TO JOHN GIBSON, 1781.

Pittsburg, June 3d, 1781.

Sir,

Within these few Months, I have been through almost every settlement on this side of the Aleghany Mountn in Order to procure provisions for the use of the Troops here, and having seriously Considered the Situation of the Department, both in regard of Beef & Flour, am of the Opinion, that when Gen1 Clark, gets the Quantity of Flour and Beef he wants for his expedition, it will then be out of my power, to get the Quantity which I am Instructed to Purchase for the troops now here, & for those that may be ordered for this Department, and more especially if the Quantities of Provisions, that is now, and is to be purchased, be allowed to pass Down the River, I mean the provisions that is exclusive, of what is purchased for the use of the army; I am well assured there cannot a sufficient Quantity of Beef be Got, on this side the Mountains for the Troops, am of the Belief if some Speedy plan be not fallen on, in order to bring Beef from the other side the Mountains, the Troops here will very soon Suffer, as we Tender our own Happiness & the Public Weal, would therefore beg the Commandant, that he will not alow of any Provisions whatever, to pass Down the River, except such as he may judge Necessary to let pass to the falls of Ohio, Caintucky, for the use of Distressed familys. These are Matters of the Greatest Importance, and ought to be Considered with the greatest Delibration and care.

I flatter myself, that if there be no Stop put to the Transportation of Provisions Down the river and no plan be fallen on to get beef brought from below, after this notice from me, that if the Troops should come to Want provisions, I cannot be Blam'd, as I have and will do every thing in my power to have them supply'd in every respect.

I am with the Greatest esteem and
regard your Obt Hhble Servt.

DAVID DUNCAN,
Commisnr. for the Westd County.

John Gibson Esqr. Col. Comdt Fort Pitt.

(A Copy.)

* Autograph Signature cut off.

Capt. Tho. Wylie to Pres. Reed, 1781.

June 6, 1781.

To His Excellency the President and the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

I find that the Honbl. the Assembly of this State, at their Last setting, were pleased to adopt all the men of the Reg^t of Art'y Artificers, who were enlisted to serve d[illegible] the war, With two Officers to command them Vi'z Cap^ts Wylie and Jordon, all of which ware Declared to be Inlisted to receive every benifit allowed to the troops of the Pensylvania Line, and as the Line have been settled with for their Depreciation some time past. I would therefore make bold to Request that your Honour may be pleased to grant me an order to have our Depreciation settled. If an order to settle the whole Cannot be granted immediately, should be Glad to have my own settled by the auditor, in this Town.

I am with Respect your
Ob^t Humble Servt,
THOS. WYLIE, Capt.
Comdg. Art'y Artificers.

Philada. 4th June, 1781.

Directed,

To His Excellency the President and Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

James Read to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, and the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council, of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Petition of James Read, of Reading, in the County of Berks, in the said Commonwealth.

Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioner has heretofore been honoured with many very important Trusts by the late and present Governments of Pensylvania and good People of Berks; The Duties whereof he has reason to think he performed to the general Approbation: He therefore prays the Honourable The Council will be pleased to appoint him Register of the Court of Admiralty* in this State in the room of the late Register Andrew Robinson, Esqr, deceased.

And your Petitioner will ever pray, &c
JAMES READ.

Philadelphia, June 5, 1781.

* He was appointed, See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 745.

Samuel Postlethwaite to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Carlisle, 6th June, 1781.

Sir,

I have thought it my Duty to send the inclosed Copy of a letter I received this day, from Col. Buchanan, one of the sub Lieutenants of this County and to inform your Excellency that all the ammunition I could send, was only sixty pounds of Lead, forty pounds of Gun powder, & 100 flints, which I believe is all the Lieutenants can command at present, as what ammunition they brought to this County was left in my care, and that sent this day to Col. Buchanan is the last.

I have the Honour to be your
Excellency's most Obedient
Humble Servant,
SAM. POSTLETHWAITE.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr.

Arthur Buchanan to Capt. Postlethwaite, 1781.

Kishacocquillis, 5th June, 1781.

Dr. Sir,

I send you a Copy of a Letter that I received from Col. Ashman, L. B. C.

Sir, by an Express this moment from Franks Town we have the bad news. As a party of Volunteers from Bedford was going to Franks Town, a party of Indians fell in with them this morning and Killed thirty of them. Only seven made their Escape to the Garrison of Franks Town. I hope that you'll Exert yourself in getting men to go up to the Stone and pray let the River people know as they may turn out. I am in health

GEO. ASHMAN.

June 3d 10 O'clock.

Col. Arthur Buchanan.

Besides the above we have Intelligence from Penns Valey, that the Enemy is this day Discovered at that post, & dont no when they mean to attack our people. Col. Brown Yesterday Marched a party of men to the Stone, & this day Capn Means with a party marches to Pens Valley to Reinforce that post. The Last of the Amunition I gave out last night, which was about three Loads a man and if there is not a suply of that article, our young men cant turn out to defend

our Country in time of Danger. The bearer Mr. Mathew Kelly will inform you of the particulars. I should be very fond if you would send over to me 100 Weight of Powder, 200 Weight of Lead, and 100 Flints. Your Compliance will much Oblige your Friend.

ARTHUR BUCHANAN.

Directed,—Capⁿ Postlethwaite, Qr Mr Carlisle.

(Copy)

JAMES MARSHALL, TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Washington County, June 5th, 1781.

Sir,

Since my arrival in this County, I have been making what progress I Can in organizing the Militia, altho, as yet, Deprived of the Assistance of the Sub Lieutenants, by the Indefatigable Opposition of a Certain Mr. Penticost and a few of his adherents, the old enemies of this government, who Immediately on my arrival got together at their Courthouse, in what they call Youghagana County, which is wholly involved in this and Westmoreland Counties, and to which the government of Virginia has sent no Orders for some Considerable time past. Notwithstanding they have resolved to go on with the jurisdiction of Virginia, both Civil and Military until the line is Actually run. Whereupon the said Penticost swore into an Old Commission of County Lieutenant, that he pretended to have by him for a long time, and thereupon assumed the Command of the Militia. Mr. Cannon (a Civil Officer under the government of Virginia), one of our Sub Lieutenants, publickly declares that government have Infringed upon the Rights of the people in appointing officers for them before they were represented, and instead of assisting me in Organizing the Militia, is using all his Influence to prevent it. Mr. Lite the other Sub Lieutenant refuses doing any thing until the artists arrive on the spot, which leaves me without assistance, and must Consequently delay the formation of the Militia. However I Expect in a short time to have the buisness Compleated, and that the artists will not fail in being on the line as soon as possible, which might prove fatal to the Interests of the State in this Quarter; for altho the people at large are well affected to this government, the junto aforesaid are Indefatagable, and a failure on the part of the artists would afford them great Opportunity of doeing mischief, in a word Mr. Penticost and Mr. Cannon are ringleaders of Sedition, and are doeing every thing in their power to revive the Jurisdiction of Virginia, in order to keep this Country in Confusion, and there not being a Court of Justice in this County, these disturbers of the peace go unpunished, two or three words of an Order from your Excellency would put the affairs of this Country into a better situation, and at the Same time Oblige a whole County.

The Indians have not done any damage on the frontiers of this County for some time past, altho they never had a better Opportunity, and were it not for Col. Broadhead's late Expedition, and the Expectation of General Clark, being in their Country this Summer, I am persuaded they would have laid a Considerable part of our Country waste by this time; let me hope then, that as soon as there may be a Necessity, you will Enable us to Call out a number of our Militia for the defence of the Frontiers, and that we may be supplied with ammunition as soon as possible.

I have the Honour to be with Verry great
Respect and Esteem your Excellency's
Most Obedient and verry Humble Servt
JAMES MARSHALL.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esq., President of Pennsylvania.

PRES. OF CONGRESS TO PRES. REED, 1781.

(Circular.)

Philadelphia, June 6, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, a resolve of Congress of the 2d Instant, directing that all Bills which are issued in the respective States in Pursuance of the Resolution of the 18th of March, 1780, after the Expiration of one year from the Time the Interest on such Bills begins to be completed, be stamped with the Words or Characters, Int. pd one [or 1] year.

And that such of the said Bills as have already issued, whenever the Interest is paid, be stamped in like Manner, to prevent the Necessity & Expence of exchanging them.

It is also the Sense of Congress that the several States suspend as far as possible the issuing of such Part of their respective Quotas of said Bills as remain to be issued.

I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Regard
Your Excellency's
most obedient & most
humble Servant,
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

Directed,
His Excellency President Reed.

Pres. Reed to Gen. Washington, 1781.

Sir,

We had the Honour of your Excellᵐ Favour of the 27th Ult.,* requiring 1600 Militia of this State. The Congress at the same Time made a Requisition of four Battalions of Infantry, consisting of 2228 Rank & File, a Company of Artillʸ, & Corps of 64 Horse for the Southern Service. A Demand has also been made of 300 Men for the Frontiers. We are sorry to inform your Excellʸ that the present Situation of the Militia in Pay & Equipment forbid an Expectation that those Requisitions can be complied with untill the House of Assembly shall make a more effectual Provision for that Service. The present Pay is 30 old Continental Dollars ℔ Day, & the Fines of Delinquents, which is the Fund of Payment, is in the same Proportion. The General Assembly now sitting, we have laid your Excellᵐ Letter before them with such farther additional Arguments & Recommendations as we hope will produce the desired Effect. As soon as we are enabled to give your Excellʸ a more satisfactory Answer we shall not fail to do it In the mean Time we beg Leave to assure that we are with the greatest Respect & Regard, your Excllᵉᵐ

Obed. Hble Ser.,

J. REED.

Indorsed—June 6th, 1781.

Pres Reed to Hillary Baker, Jr., 1781.

In Council, June 6, 1781.

Sir,

This Board has Directed the Deeds for the Forfeited Estates lately sold, & which hereafter may be sold, to be drawn by you. You'll Observe that the ground rent and arrears at the time of Sale upon the Premises subject to that incumbrance, are to be settled by the Purchaser.

You'll likewise Observe that all forfeited Estates in Fee Simple already sold & which hereafter may be sold, are on the following Terms. One Fourth part to be reduced to a Ground Rent payable in Wheat at 10s. ℔ Bushel, to be Deliver'd half Yearly at the public Market in Philadelphia or in Cash at the Current price, at the Option of the Trustees. The said Ground Rent to be Redeemable at any time after three Years & within Ten Years, such Purchaser paying fifteen Years purchase in Wheat or Money as aᵗᵈ, at the Election of the Trustees. The Ground Rent of the University to Commence from the Day of Sale.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 742.

Pres. Reed to Henry Christ, Esq., Reading, 1781.

Sir,

In answer to your Letter of the 1st Inst., would inform you that your Papers came safely to Hand & are now under Examination by the Auditors—With Respect to the Recruiting Service we apprehend it will be best to wait till some Plan can be form'd for that Purpose. You will be pleased to send down the Money you have on Hand, reserving what you deem a reasonable Compensation for the Trouble of Mr. Haller & yourself, of which you will make out an Account, Council having full Confidence in your Moderation & Integrity.

We request to know whether in settling the Depreciation Accounts, Mr. Haller & yourself did not give Certificates to some who had resigned previous to passing the Law. We have been informed that some Errors of this Nature took Place.

I am Sir,
your Obed. Hbbl. Ser.

Indorsed,
June 7, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Representative of Don Juan Miralles, 1781.

Sir,

I beg Leave to inclose you as the Representative of Don Juan de Miralles, an Acct of the Rent due for the House on Market street which he occupied the first Year of his Residence among us. By a Law of this State the House & the Rent accrued were vested in the President of the State for the Time being. And as this Account has been furnished by the Agents of forfeited Estates you will be fully secured against any Demand by them, & I shall cheerfully sign any Receipt for that Purpose.

Your Compliance will oblige, Sir,

your obed. Hbble Ser.,
J. R.

Indorsed,
June 7, 1781, to Don Francisco.

Pres. Reed to Speaker of Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

By the inclosed Letters which have been brought in by the Commissioner of Purchases, the Hon. House will observe to what Distress we are rapidly approaching. There are 1500 hundred Prisoners now in the State for whom daily Provision must be made, besides necessary Guards, & the Convention Prisoners marching through the State to N. England. The People of the Country as well as in the City universally demand Gold or Silver for their Produce & Merchandize, & will not part with either for Paper Money but at a most unreasonable Depreciation. We must therefore entreat the House immediately to devise some Mode of present Supplies or general Confusion & Distress must unavoidably take Place. The Council have thought it most adviseable to give this Information by Way of Letter rather than Address, wishing to keep our critical Situation as secret as Circumstances will admit.

Indorsed, June 7, 1781.

Genl. Washington to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Head Quarters, New Windsor, 7th June, 1781.

Sir,

By a Resolution of Congress of the 31st of May, four Battalions of Infantry, one Company of Artillery consisting of thirty-two Matrosses and a Corpse of Horse consisting of sixty four Dragoons are required of the State of Pennsylvania to serve for three Months from the Time of their respectively rendezvousing at the Place or Places directed by me. Your Excellency has, no Doubt, been made acquainted that the foregoing Requisition is founded on the alarming Progress which the Enemy are making in Virginia. You will be pleased therefore to give Orders to the Officers commanding the respective Corps to march by Detachment as they are raised and equipped to whatever Place may be the Head Quarters of the American Army in Virginia or in Maryland (should the Enemy have advanced into that State) and take their further Commands from the General or other commanding Officer.

I need but refer Your Excellency to the Circular Letter of the President of Congress of the 1st instant for the Reasons which ought to influence the Exertions of your State most particularly at this Moment.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect,

Your Excellency's

Most Obedt & very

H'ble Servant.

G° WASHINGTON.

Directed—His Excellency, President Reed, Pennsylvania.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, June 8th, 1781.

Sir,

In consequence of a letter of Gen. Knox, who has wrote by order of the Commander in chief the Board beg leave to request you will be pleased to furnish them with any quantity of powder you can spare; whatever you think proper to part with on this occasion will be punctually restored, whenever the public are enabled to do it.

I have the honor to be,
with the highest respect,
Y^r Exc^y Most Obed,
& very h'ble serv.
WILL^m GRAYSON.
By order.

Directed,

His Excell^y, The President of the State of Penns^a.

Col. Lewis Nicola to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

From what was said relative to the pay of the American soldiery, when I had the honour of waiting on your Excellency last; I have been induced to reduce my sentiments to writing and beg leave to trouble you with them. I shall wait on you on Monday morning for the papers to communicate them to the Board of War, or Mr Morris, as possibly some part may be of use tho' the whole should not be approved of.

I beg leave to assure your Excellency that I am with respect,

S^r, Your most obed't Serv.

LEWIS NICOLA, Col. In.

Barracks, 8th June, 1781.

Indorsed,

June ye 8, 1781. From Col. Nicola.

Directed,

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, President of the State.

The Plan.

A scheme for having the duty done in this city without calling out any part of the Militia, & at much less expence.

The duty to be done by persons exempted by law from militia service but that have vigour enough to do garrison duty, as was practiced in 1776 & 1777.

It is highly probable that the pay of 20 pence hard money & a ration a day regularly paid & issued will induce many to enter when certain of not being sent out of the city.

The duty to be done in Philadelphia, is

New Goal Guard,	1 Sub.	1 Serj.	2 Cor.	1 Dr.	21 Priv.
Barracks,		1	1		18
Powder Magazine,			1		3
	1	2	4	1	42

Two relieves for the above will require 126 men but sickness or other casualties may happen there should be at least men over making in the whole 132 divided into two companies each consisting of 1 Lt. 1 Ens^n, 4 Serg^ts, 6 corp^s., 1 Drum^r & 66. There being no duty for Captains that expence may be saved.

LEWIS NICOLA, Col. Inv.

Pres. Reed to Wm. Bradford, Jr., 1781.

Sir,

M^r McCalla the Commissioner of Bucks County has received some ill Treatment from one Arthur Irwin. The Council request you to hear his Complaint and take such Measures for his redress as the Nature of the Case will admit & the Justice due to a good publick officer requires.

I am Sir,

Your Obed. Hble Ser.

JOS. REED.

Indorsed,

June 8th, 1781. To Wm Bradford, jun^r, Esqr. A^y Genl.

Pres. Reed to Col. Adam Hubley, 1781.

To Col. Adam Hubley, Lieut. of Lancaster County.

Sir

I duly received your Favour of the 6th Inst. The Council have this Day considered the Proposition of calling the Town Militia of Lancaster to relieve the present Militia Guards on the Prisoners. The Reasons you give for it have a good deal of Weight, & especially at this Season of the Year; but we are apprehensive that if the Militia of the County should be called to Service on the Frontiers or with the Main Army, it would be the Occasion of great Disgust on Acct. of the Difference of the Service. At present, therefore, Council seem inclined to continue the Force in Rotation, but have not made any Resolution thereupon untill we could hear from you

again.—It is not in our Power to send any more Arms from hence, as we have neither Money nor Credit to procure them. We have some Expectation of a Supply from Europe; if they should arrive we will pay a proper attention to the County of Lancaster.—We are glad to find you have so happily surmounted the Difficulties with the Prisoners, & Dispute between the Militia and the Light Horse, in which we think the latter much to blame. We should be sorry that Differences should arise between them, but while the Militia are in the Discharge of their Duty they must & will be supported; and we make no Doubt the Officers of the Cavalry will give you all reasonable aid on such Occasions.

We have laid the Delinquencies of the Militia Fines before the House of Assembly for their Consideration. & as soon as they have determined will let you know; in the mean Time we think it best to defer Collection except from such as are willing to pay in State Money at 75. With Respect to drawing Candles, &c., for the Guards, these have been allways supplied by the Continental Store at this & other Places, & the Militia when on Continental Duty are intitled to them in that Channell.

Your Observations with Respect to the Militia Fines are unhappily too just, & the Evil is general, but as Money will probably hereafter have a more decided Value, we hope these difficulties will cease, & Men of better Character take the Collection.—There is a Committee now preparing a Supplement to the Militia Law; I shall communicate your Letter to them, & hope they will make some Provision for the Mischiefs you complain of.

Mr. Potter will do well to have the Guns you mention repaired, & it will be a proper Charge to be paid out of the Militia Fines.

I am Sir,

Your Obed. H'bble Ser.

Indorsed,—June 9, 1781.

EXTRACTS OF LETTER FROM D. DUNCAN TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Pittsburg, June 9th, 1781.

Sir,

I am sorry that it is not in my power to make you Returns e'er now. Mr. Perry's purchases is so far Scattered that makes it out of my power to get them rec^d as soon as I could wish. It appears to be hard to get Mr. Perry to Deliver any of the Stores; what his motive can be I can't say, but from what he has said, he thinks he will be put in his old place, on account of which he don't want to have the Delivery Compleated untill his brother comes from Philad^a, who is now with Councill. I am Sorry to trouble the Governor & Counsell with letters in place of my Returns and accounts of Money which I rec^d at my appointment, but flatter my self when they see

they will give Satisfaction in Genl, and they will be Convinced that I have made my study to save the one third in all my purchases more than Mr. Perry have done. I have bought stall fed beef at one Shilling ℔ pound state Money. I have bought whiskey at Six, & from that to Seven Shillings ℔ Gall^s, & have it Deliv^d in the Store, & wheat at one Dollar, & Delivered in ye Mills; these purchases I have made, but not since the exchange came to One Hundred & Seventy five, for now the People seems not to be willing to Sell their property for state money.

I had men last week in the Glades trying to Purchase beef, but not one would sell without hard Money; from what I can learn, I fear the Troops will suffer e'er Long unless some relief be sent from the other side the Mountains in a short time. I assure you the Credit of the Money is intirely lost within these few Weeks past, and puts it past my power to purchase as low as my Instructions Directs me.

Should ye Governer & Counsell Continue me any longer, I hope they will inform me, as soon as in their power, how to act in regard to the money, and what prices I am to give for the articles I have to purchase. I Live at so great a Distance I am never on a Certainty of ye prices of articles, nor ye Value of our money one week at once; you may Depend on my Returns, when I can get all the Stores rec^d from Mr Perry, and shall make you all the Necessary Returns of Receiving Purchases and Deliveries; it's true that when Returns are made, we ha'nt still an oppertunity of sending them when done. I think it out of my power sending you Returns from here in Less than three Months, the Distance is so great; tho' shall do all in my power to remitt them to you every Month, but am afraid I can't Compleat it. * * * * *

Lt Morrison, of the 9th Virg^a Reg^t, have been up French Creek as far as the Carrying place, to see if they could make any Discoveries of the Indians & English that was said to be there & Coming against us; he and his men made no Discovery of any kind, nor no signs at the Carrying place; so from that we may hope the report we had of it was false, and no truth in it. I am very much of the opinion gen^l Clark's Campaign will fall through, as it seems he won't get any men worth while on this side the Mountains; it's thought one Hundred is the most he will get. Inclosed you will find my Representation to the Commanding officer, in regard of the provisions I am Instructed to purchase.

I am, dear Sir, with great esteem, y^r Obedient and very Hb'le Servant,

DAVID DUNCAN.

Directed,

Excel'y Joseph Reed, Governor of Pennsy^a, Philadelphia.

Order on Secretary Matlack for Books and Papers, 1781.

In Council, Philadelphia, May 7th, 1871.

On application of Francis Johnston Esquire, Receiver, General, Resolved, That the Secretary of this Board, deliver up to Mr. Johnston all the Books and papers received by him, from Edmund Physick Esquire, late Receiver General, and now in the possession of this Board taking his Receipt specially therefore.

Extract from the Minutes,

JAMES TRIMBLE,

For TY. MATLACK, Secy.*

Resolution of General Assembly, 1781.

State of Pennsylvania In General Assembly, 1781.

Monday June, 11th 1781.

Resolved, that the average price of common labour by the Day, for the purpose of ascertaining the pay, fines and penalties of the militia of this State, be three shillings and six pence, payable in Gold or Silver money.

Extract from the minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, Clerk.†

George Ashman to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Bedford County, June 12th, 1781.

Sir,

I have to inform you that on Sunday the third of this instant a party of the rangers under Captain Boyd eight in number, with twenty-five Volunteers under Capt. Moore and Lieut. Smith of the Militia of this County had an Engagement with a party of Indians (said to be numerous) within three Miles of Frankstown where Seventy-five of the Cumberland militia was station'd, commanded by Captn. Jas. Young, sum of the party running into the Garrison acquainting Capt. Young of what had happend he Issued out a party Immediatly and Brought in Seven more five of whome are wounded

* See order on Edmund Physick as Receiver General, under the proprietaries, Vol. VIII. p. 113.

And the list of Books received (which are probably now in the Land Office at Harrisburg) Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 755.—F. J. was appointed April 9, 1781. See page 66, this Vol.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 752.

and two made there escape to Bedford, Eight Kil'd and scalpt, Capt. Boyd, Captn. Moore, and Captn. Dunlap with six others are missing, Captn. Young expecting from the enemys numbers that his garrison would be surrounded sent express to me Immediately, but before I could colleckt as many voluntiers as was sufficient to march to Franktown with the Enemy had return'd over Alligany hill, the warters being high occation'd by heavy rains they could not be pursu'd, this County at this time is in a Deplorable sittuation a number of Familys are flying a way daily ever since the late damage was dun, I can assure youre Excellency that if Immediate assistance is not sent to this County that the whole of the frontcire Inhabitants will move of in a few days. Colo. Abm. Smith of Cumberland has Just Inform'd me that he has no orders to send us any more militia from Cumberland County to our assistance which I am much surpris'd to heare, I shall move my family to Maryland in a few days as I am convinc'd that not any one settlement is able to make any stand against such numbers of the Enemy. If your Excellency should please to order us any assistance less than three Hundred will be of but little reliefe to this County, ammunition we have not any, the Cumberland militia will be Discharg'd in two days. It is dreadful to think what the consequence of leaving such a number of helpless Inhabitants may be to the Crueltys of a savage Enemy.

Please to send me by the first opportunity Three hundred pounds as I cannot possably doe the bussiness without money, you may Depend that nothing shall be wanting in me to serve my Cuntry as far as my abilities.

I have the Honor to be,

Your Excellencys most obedient Humble Servant,

GEORGE ASHMAN Lieut. Bedfd. Cty.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council Philadelphia.

Wm. Attlee to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, ye 13th of June, 1781.

D. Sir,

Colonel Wood just now honoured me with the perusal of your Letter to him of the 9th instant wherein I observe the Council have had information that the Prisoners of the Convention Troops lately arrived from Virginia may be accommodated within the Picquets at this place & direct their continuing here.

I beg leave to represent to Council that before the arrival of the convention Troops there were near eight hundred Prisoners of War at this Post stationed at the Barracks within the Picquets, under my direction and among them a great number sick of a putrid fever

which gave great uneasiness to the Inhabitants as there was the greatest probability of its being communicated to the Town.

Upon the arrival of the British of the convention Prisoners it was expected that the Guard who came with them would have proceeded on with them to the Eastward; but as they were hastily assembled at York Town & were determined to return, I advised Major Bailey (who had charge of them before Col. Wood's arrival,) to secure them under the Guard then on duty here. We accordingly turned a number of them into the Barracks; but as they would not contain the whole (there being near five hundred Women & Children among them,) the married People were permitted to encamp on the common outside of the Stockade where they still remain (except a few who have taken shelter in an old continental stable,) but badly shelter'd from the weather.

As we expected their stay would be short we apprehended no inconvenience from their being crouded in the Barracks for a few Days; but I can assure Council that notwithstanding all the care and attention of several of the Physicians and Surgeons of the convention army who continued here till within these few Days & were so kind as to advise with and assist Doctor Houston who attends the Prisoners here under my direction. This fatal disorder has gained ground & there are now at least a hundred & fifty sick in these greatly crouded Barracks without a prospect of its abating. The Rooms which we had before set apart for Hospital Rooms cannot contain them, they are scattered throughout the Barracks & I know not a House in or near the Town which could be had for a hospital.

I cannot think the Gentleman who gave the information to Council could have had an idea that there were near two hundred men, women & Children among the Prisoners of War & Convention at this place when he gave his opinion to Council that they might be accommodated in the Barracks here nor could he have known of their unhealthy situation. I should think half that number of healthy Persons would fill them sufficiently at any time, but in their present sickly state I cou'd wish even that number reduced.

My duty as Commissary of Prisoners obliges me to trouble Council on this occasion, it is necessary as well for the safety of the Inhabitants as the security of the Prisoners that they should be kept compact and as free from disorders as possible. The Barracks here cannot contain the whole of the convention Troops with their Familys & the Prisoners of War before stationed here; the Gaol is filled with Sailors & others & it is very difficult to prevent those from stragling who are encamped outside the Stockade.

Permit me also to mention Sir, that in expectation of the convention Troops being removed from hence I yesterday received from Reading, from Col. Wood's Party between fifty & sixty Prisoners of war (not' of the convention Troops tho' bro^t with him from Virginia,) in exchange for which I was to have given him about the

like number of convention Troops who had stragled from their quarters in Virginia & been confined here before his arrival and I have this minute Letters by an officer mentioning the approach of another Party from Fishkill, lately taken & who at the particular request of his Excellency Gen[l] Washington are ordered to be kept closely confined & I hardly know where to place them tho' the Gaol must be their station.

I am Sir

with the highest respect

your most obed[t] Serv[t],

WILL. ATTLEE.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Lt. Wm. Henry to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, June 13th, 1781.

May it Please your Excellency,

Have taken the Liberty to mention some difficulties as I hear that the Honourable Assembly are about making a Suplement to the militia Law. That I have not been able as yett to Collect the whole militia fines of Delinquents. There is no Penalty for refusing to Collect, when a Duplicate is sent to a fitt Person, have therefore been obliged to employ Constables, and others that would undertake it amongst which some have proved to have Collected monies of Delinquents where for they have given no Credit, and likewise Deficient at the Settlement of Their Duplicates, which I have been obliged to get other Collectors to finish, when it has been found that monies have been Collected where no Credit was given, and the former Collectors embezelled several Hundred Dollars and gone off before the fraud was found out.

And also a Difficulty which some of the good Inhabitants labour under, which is that there is but one appeal allowed by the Present militia Law, which falls very heavy upon some of those Who are Sick and helpless at the appointed time of apeal for their Class, and when called upon by the Collectors, poor and not Worth the Value of said fine if all was seiz'd and Sold agreeable to Law, therefore am under great Difficulty to know how to act. It would be a relief to such Inhabitants if the Law Expressed "Apeal or Apeals."

I am your Excellency's

most obedient and

Very humble serv[t]

W[m] HENRY, L[t].

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq[r], General and Command[r]-in-Chief of the Militia of the State Pennsylvania.

Duties Received in the Port of Philadelphia, 1781.

Account of Duties received in the Port of Philadelphia from 1st February to 13th June, 1781, and Cash paid into the Treasury.

February,						£171	2	9¼
March,						466	12	8
April,						1593	1	0¾
May,						746	14	11½
May, on Bond not recd,		£800	16	4½				
June,	Do.	164	4	6				
June,						388	4	9½
	State,	£965	0	10½	State,	£3360	16	3
June received in hard Cash,						£42	1	8
Paid into the Treasury,						£171	2	9¼
Ditto,						466	12	8
Ditto,						1593	1	0¾
Balance on Hand,						1129	19	9
					State,	£3360	16	3

The Cargo of the Ship Ann, James Josiah, Master, from L'Orient, is not included, as the value thereof could not be ascertained for want of Invoices; accountable Bonds are taken for the Duties when the value can be known within the Time limitted by Law.

Indorsed,—June 13, 1781.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, June 13th, 1781.

Sir,

The Commander in Chief having called for the corps of Invalids at this place to compose part of the garrison at West Point, the Board are under the necessity of applying to your Excellency & the Honble Council for one hundred Militia to guard the prisoners & Stores at this place. As it will be necessary that the Militia should be assembled previous to the departure of the Invalid corps, the Board will be glad of a speedy answer to this letter.

I have the honor to be
with the highest respect,
Yr Excys most Obed.
& very h'ble servt,
WILL'M GRAYSON, By order.

Directed,—His Excellency President Reed.
War Office.

GENL. WASHINGTON TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Head Quarters,
New Windsor, June 15th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I have been honored with your Favors of the 17th of May and 6th of this Month*—the first did not reach me until the 7th inst.—"By the Rules of Promotion which existed previous to the resolve of Congress of the 25th of May, Lieut. Colo. Carrington, of the 1st Regiment of Artillery, will succeed to the Command of the 4th, vice Proctor, and Lieut. Colo. Forest, if he remains in Service, must be removed to the 1st.—Your Excellency has therefore only to call upon Lieut. Colo. Carrington, or commanding Officer, for an accurate Return of the Officers of the Regim^t, and I make no Doubt but it will be immediately furnished."

The Proceedings of the Court Martial on the Case of Lieut. Bigham were transmitted to me from Philadelphia; and the Sentence, by which he was cashiered, has been approved. The Court unanimously recommended a Restoration of his Rank, but I could not think myself justifiable in doing it.

In Consideration of the Number of Militia which have been required from the State for the Assistance of Virginia, I have thought it but equitable to withdraw my request for the sixteen hundred Men which were intended to act with the Army. This I hope will enable Your Excellency with the more Ease to procure the Means of raising and equipping those for the Southern Service.

I must confess to You that I am not a little alarmed at the Complexion of Your Excellency's Letter of the 17th of May, as I cannot find that You are able to give me the least Assurance of a further Supply of Flour, and there is no other Quarter from whence it can be drawn in sufficient Quantities by any Means within our Power. While I regret that internal Disputes and Divisions have for some Time past deprived us of the Resources of one of the most powerful States in the Union, I cannot but hope that Unanimity will take Place at the present Crisis, which is perhaps the most important of any which America has yet experienced. From your Excellency's Zeal and Inclinations I have every Thing to expect, and I shall anxiously wait to hear how your Recommendations have been received and seconded by the Legislature.

I have the Honor to be
with very great Respect & Esteem,
Your Excellency's most Obed^t & h^ble Servt,
G^o WASHINGTON.

Directed,
His Excellency President Reed.

* See pages 141, 195.

Col. Thomas Robinson to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Northumberland County, June 15th, 1781.

Sir

I take this oppertunity of adressing your Excellency and Council in order to Inform you of the Present state of my Company I have used Every exertion in Recruiting that my Cercumstances would admit of. I Have Engaged 52 men During the war the want of necesary Clothing and money Puts it out of my Pour to Render that service to this Distressed part of the Country I Could otherwise do most of them are naked they have not a sufficiency to Cover themselves. Blankits they have none. I Hope Council by this time will be able to afford me sufficient Clothing and what money is due them to the first of June this will not only be Doing Proper Justice to the Company but will enable me to fill my Company very soon. Lieu^t Grove has Raised 17 men for seven months. Mr Saml Mc Gredey has Raised 20 men for the same time and has been extreamly active with them. I have with the advice of Genl Potter nominated him as a Lieu^t to Command that Detachment I hope this will meet with your Excellences approbation. I Have Raisd 14 men for 7 months and as we have mostly Been Devided in small Detachments it was Impossible for Mr Vancamp & myself to Do the necessary duty. I have therefore with the advice of Col. Hunter and the approbation of Genl Potter nominated Mr Sam'l Quinn as an Ens^n he has been Doing the Duty of an officer since the first of May this I Hope will also be acceptable to you if the number of our men would admit, it would be more agreeable to me to Confer the Rank of L^t on him. The County being without a Pay master I supose severals will be applying for that office whose abilities will not allow them to do that Duty if your Exellency should think proper to confer that office in addition to the other on the Bearer Mr. Quinn I know he can Execute it without Preventing him from doing Duty as an officer or at Least to the appointment of Paying my men and the Present Temporary troops in the County I think allowing him some pay for the Extra Duty will be Cheaper to the County than appointing one merely for that Purpose—another thing I Beg Leave to Inform your Excellency and Earnestly beg your attention thereto is the appointment of a surgeon there is not one in the County not within forty miles that I know. Some Incouragement given for that Purpose a Surgeant might be had. I know of non that would be willing to Com here but Michael Jenneys or Doctor Smith of Lancaster County.

One thing more I Beg your attention to is the Establishing the Posts in this County. I have for some time had in Contemplation to Rebuild Fort Moncy, this Gen. Potter is extremly fond of and Looks upon it as the most advantages Post in the County for many Reasons; should this meet with your approbation, I Request your

Instructions therin by the Bearer in this and aney other thing necessary for me to know.

Arms of one Boar if the Could be obtaind and Millitary sters for my Company under my Derection that the Posts might be regulary supleyd & have some to suply Detach^d Parties, this also would be very agreeable to me.

I am with Due Regard and Esteem,
your Excellences most obedient Humble Servt.

THO^s ROBINSON, Captn
P. Rangers.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr., President of Council, &c. Philadelphia.

Per Mr. Sam'l Quinn.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

The United States in Congress Assembled, June 12th, 1781.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the State of Pensylvania to raise, accoutre and equip Moylan's legionary corps to its full complement the men to be raised for three years unless sooner discharged.

That it also be earnestly recommended to the said State immediately to raise and equip three troops of Militia Cavalry properly officered including those called for by the Act of the 31st May last, to serve with the southern army for three months from the time of their arrival at the said army, each troop to consist of sixty-four non commissioned and privates.

That the said cavalry be marched by detachments as they are compleated to the southern Army and the militia Cavalry discharged in proportion to the numbers enlisted into Moylan's regiment and joining the said army properly armed and accoutred.

That the said militia Cavalry be sent forward with every degree of dispatch without waiting for the march of the militia Infantry required by Congress from that State.

That it be earnestly recommended to the state of Maryland to arm, equip, mount and accoutre two troops of Militia Horse including those called for by the act of the 31st May last, consisting of sixty-four noncommissioned officers and privates each, with the proper number of commissioned officers, and send them forward with all possible expedition to the southern army without waiting for the march of the Infantry requested by Congress from that state, to continue in service three months from the time they join the said Army.

Extract from the minutes.

CHA. THOMSON, Sec^y.*

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 758.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, June 15, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, a resolve of Congress of the 12th Instant, earnestly recommending to this Commonwealth to complete Colonel Moyland's Legionary Corps to its full Compliment.

And also immediately to raise three Troops of Militia Cavalry, including those called for by the Resolve of the 31st Ult°, to serve in the Southern Army three Months, or until relieved by the Arrival of Moyland's Corps, and that these Militia Cavalry be sent forward with all possible Dispatch.

By the latest Intelligence from Virginia, the Movements of the Enemy in that State require the immediate & vigorous Exertions and Aid of the other States to support Virginia and check the Progress & Ravages of the Enemy.

I have the Honor to be, with the highest Respect,

Your Excellency's
most obedt. & hble. Servant,
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.*

Directed,
His Excellency, President Reed.

Gen. Du Portail to Pres. Reed, 1781.

New windsor, June 17th, 1781.

Sir,

As we know that the state of Pensilvania have determined to give to their troops their depreciation or other bounties, I send the bearer to Philadelphia to get the money for himself and his fellow soldiers. I take the liberty to recommend to your excellency these men. those of Massachuset bay and Connecticut which I have in the Corps have received their depreciation some time ago, and I do not suppose there will be any difficulty for the men draughted from the Pensilvania line, but there are two others who have only inlisted in that state. The New England states consider the men inlisted in them as belonging to them. I hope the state of Pensilvania will consider them so too. I shall be extremely obliged to your excellency if

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 759.

you are so good as to give proper orders and directions to these men to be satisfied, and in so little time as possible. I will be extremely grateful for all what your excellency will do in this affair.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect,

your excellency's

the most humble

and obedient servant,

DU PORTAIL, Br. General

Comm^dt of the Corps of engineers,

sappers and miners.

Directed,

His Excellency, Governor Reed.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, (Sunday Morning) June 17th, 1781.

Sir,

I last evening received your favour of the 9th instant. The attention which your Excell^y and the Hon^l Council paid to my propositions—which however did not for judicious & good reasons meet with your approbation—demands my most respectful & warmest acknowledgements.

I have, in consequence of your direction, ordered out the second Class's of the 3^d, 4th, 5th & 6th Battalions, who come in course of Duty in their Numerical order. My apprehentions express'd in my last, with respect to the Country militia I fear are too justly grounded—and altho' I have ordered four Batallions to furnish the relief; from their present situation, I mean the necessary attention which they must pay to their farms at this season. I do not expect near the Compliment required. I could wish Council would at least during the present season, furnish me with discretionary power to order out Militia indiscriminatelely, where time & Circumstances absolutely require it. Council I hope will not consider my Demand extravagant or forward, at present I consider it absolutely necessary, and therefore wish Council would take the matter into consideration, and give such Directions as they shall think proper.

About 1200 of the convention troop pass'd thro' here a few days since, bound to the Eastward. A second Division of about 600 men, exclusive of all the Convention officers, near 800 Waiters & nearly that number of Women & Children have arrived here under the Direction of a Major Baily, who acts under Colo. Woods, C. G. P. for the Southern department—they are to remain at this place until the arrival of Colo. Wood, who is expected in a few days.

I am call'd upon by Mr Atlee, Col. P., & Major Baily for a guard to Conduct them by way of Easton to Jearsey. I beg Council will send me orders by the Express, who delivers this, that I may be enabled to procure the Guards as soon as possible, in order to get rid & ease the people of the immense burthen & inconveniencys which they now labour under by those troops being continued here. I must represent before I conclude one material matter—should a guard be ordered out I have not a single stand of arms to put in their hands. So that I must beg Council will give directions to forward at least 100 stand & accoutrements, or otherwise we shall remain in a most unhappy situation.

Mr Atlee also calls on me for a Guard to take about 100 seamen to Philada, Council will give orders respecting the number of the diffl Guards as they shall think proper.

The York County Militia, who conducted the last Division from York, could by no means be prevailed on to continue, they call'd themselves Volunteers, and of Course use their own pleasures. This said County is considerably behind hand in militia duty—people here seem considerably disatisfy'd. I do not wish to say any thing further about the matter—Council I hope will inquire into it.

I am with greatest respect,

your Excellency's most obt hl servt,

ADm HUBLEY, Jr, Lt Lr Cy.*

Indorsed,

Read in Council, June 20, 1781.

Directed,

On public service.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Penna Philadelphia.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Phila., June 18, 1781.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to lay before Council a state of Certificates which have been granted, and sums paid on account of the depreciation of the pay of the Troops of the Penna Line at Downings Town, Yellow-Springs, Lancaster, York Town & Carlisle.

On my first route, there were settlements made and Certificates granted as follows:

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII, pp. 764, 768.

At Downingstown & Yellow-Springs, 197 Certificates to the Officers & privates of the 2nd Germn. regiments, amounting to			£27,691 15 0¼	
At Lancaster, to Regiment of Cavalry, 74 Cer., amounting to			8,137 11 6¾	
At York Town, to the 1st & 10th Regts., 394 Certificates, amounting to			39,111 8 3¼	
And at Carlisle, to the 4th & 7th regiments, 344 Certificates, amounting to . . .			34,762, 6 4¼	
After my return from this route, and previous to my setting out again, Doctor Jackson & myself paid considerable sums on acct. of depreciation; we likewise made a number of settlements, viz.:			109,703 1 2¼	
Paid Cash in part of depn. ℔ account . . .	6,174 18 1			
Of which there was paid in part of Certificates before granted, the sum of . . .	4,610 9 9			
Paid in part of Accounts then settled . . .			1,564 18 1	
Issued 95 Certificates (Interest) to Officers & soldiers for the balance due to them respectively, on their accts. of depn., amounting to	12,905 17 0			
Of which there had been Certificates granted before, and now only renewed for the residue .	8,633 6 6			
granted on settlements then made			4,272 10 6	
Settled Major Tudor (a retiring Officer) his acct. ℔ Certificate			555 6 10	
Again, on my Second route, at the post of Downingstown, I paid the sum of . . .		4,065 10 0		
of which there was paid on Certificates already granted, the sum of	3,600 0 0			
And to James Moore, Esqr., in advance, to complete the payment of the gratuity and bounty money to the non Commd. Officers & soldiers about to march .	300 0 0			
		3,900 0 0		
Cash paid on new settlemts.			165 10 0	
Likewise Issued 114 Certificates (on interest) amo'g to .		7,534 4 10¼		
of which, renewed for balances due on Certificates formerly granted		7,203 1 5¼		
Certificates Issued at Downing T. on Settlements then made			331 3 5	
Carried over			£116,592 10 0¼	

Brought over				£116,592 10 0½
At Lancaster, paid in part of depreciation due to Colo. Moylan's regt. Cavalry		2,149 15		
of which there was paid in part of Certificates already granted		2,025 15		
Paid in part on new settlements			124 0 0	
Issued 56 Certificates, amounting to		4,110 17 10¾		
In which is contained certificates renewed for balances unpaid on those formerly granted		3,862 0 6		
Cer. Issued at Lancaster, on new settlements			248 17 4¾	
At Carlisle, paid as ℘ Cash account		8,215 3 4		
of which there was paid in part of Certificates already granted for depreciation	7,518 3 4			
And To John Agnew, Esqr., advanced to enable him to pay off the gratuity & Bounty monies	273 10 0			
		7,791 13 4	423 10 0	
Paid on settlements then made				
Issued 190 Certificates (on Interest) for		16,127 15 8¾		
whereof was Issued for balances on Certificates formerly granted		15,180 1 3¾		
Cer. Issued at Carlisle, in Consequence of Accts. then settled			947 14 5	
At York Town, paid to Officers and privates of the 1st and 10th Regts. in part of their depreciation	6,818 10 0			
Paid after the troops were Collected at Y. Town from their different Cantonments, to such as had been on Command or otherwise Absent at the times of settlement with their respective regiments	2,574 5 0			
Amot. paid		9,392 15 0		
Of the above, was paid in part of Certificates already granted	7,549 15 0			
And to Arch'd McClean, Esqr., advanced to enable him to complete the pay of the gratuity and bounty monies to the Detachment	227 10 0			
		7,77 0	1,615 10 0	
Paid on Accts. then settled				
Issued 280 Certificates (on Interest) amounting to		19, 368 8 11		
of which renewed in part of Certificates rec'd on a former Settlement		15,566 11 1½		
Cer. Issued at York Town in Consequence of Adjustments then made			3,801 17 8½	
				£123,753 19 6½

Brought over,		£123,753 19 6¾
Issued 5 Certificates to Soldiers who had been disch'd at Trenton		385 9 0
Amount of the depreciation which was found due to the officers and privates of the Penna. Line on Settlements made on my 1st & 2nd Routes		£124,139 8 6¾
of which debt there is discharged, by payments made at the several posts		29,197 1 5
And there yet remains unpaid for which Certificates are granted		94,942 7 1¾
Certificates on which *Interest* is expressed.	60,047 4 4¾	
Do. Granted to officers retiring, or soldiers discharged since December 18th, 1780 . . .	34,895 2 9	
Amount of Certificates outstand'g		94,942 7 1¾

In making the above settlements, the money which had been advanced by order of Council &ca., on account of Depreciation, was deducted from the respective accounts of the persons by whom it was received.

I am, with very great respect, your Excellency's
most Obed^t very Humble Servant,
JN^o NICHOLSON.

His Excell'y Joseph Reed, Esq., pres^t.

Brig. Gen'l Moultrie to Pres. Reed, 1781.

S^r.

The Flag, in which I have come from Carolina with my Family and a number of Continental officers & Militia with their Families, was stopped at the Fort at Billingsport: and as we were near losing the Tide, and a longer detention on board the Vessell would have been very inconvenient to us, I at length prevailed upon the Commanding officer of the Fort to permitt us to proceed as far as South Street and there wait your determination. I therefore hope the officer's permission for us to come thus far, grounded upon a full representation of our Circumstances, will be of no detriment to him, and that we may be permitted to land in Philadelphia without delay.

I have the honour to be
with great respect your Excellency
Most obedient and most humble Servant
WIL^M MOULTRIE,
Brig^r Gen'l.

The Cartell Brig Burton, off South Street. July, 19, 1781.

Directed,—To The President of the Commonwealth of Pensylvania.

Lt. Col. Mentges to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Reading, the 19 June, 1781.

Sir,

I beg leave to inform your Excellencys of a Vendue held yesterday for the sale of two Confiscated Estates in this County——— Likwis to acquaint your Excellency that the officers of the fifth Regt have left their Certificates with me to make some of the Purchases of Andrew Allen Estate, but unhappy for my Brethern Officers, the said land was raised at such Extravagent prise by a Low Class of people who have purchased the Certificates from the Soldiers at such rate that they could give One hundred Pound for an akre where I could not (with justice to the officers) give twelff Pounds, I therefore made but a small purchase of that Estate, your Excell'y will please to consider that my intention was to purchase that tract of Land for the real Value as I was informed by judges of Land, and not to make any speculation thereof, but so realise the Certificates of the officers—I beg your Excellency to Consider whether those people who have the Certificates at such a Low rate from the soldiers may make payments as I am confident that Numbers of the Certificates are not signed by the Commanding officer—and therefore I think they are not to be taken in payment.

I have the honor to be
with the greatest Esteem
your Excellency most Obed't
Humble Servant
P. MENTGES.

Directed,

To His Excellency Jos. Reed, Governor and Commander in Chief of the force of the State of Pennsylv^a, Philadelphia.

John Nicholson to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a, June 20th, 1781.

Sir,

I beg leave to State to Council the business which has been transacted at this place since we opened our office.

Mr Stevenson has paid to sundry officers and Soldiers (in actual Service,) the quota of their depreciation now payable, out of monies that remained in his hands after the payments made in the

Country	£1,467 16 0	
A part of which was paid on Certificates already granted	390 11 0	
The rem^r paid on accounts not before settled		1,077 5 0

Brought over,				1,077	5	0
I have taken on myself the risque in paying out the monies rec^{d}, by order of Council, since we returned; and find by my cash account, that I have paid to officers & Soldiers as above	5,674	15	0			
Of which there was paid on old Certificates return^{d}	393	10	0			
Rem^{r} paid on acc^{ts} then Settled				5,281	5	0
There has been 207 Certificates (on Interest,) Issued for the balances on the above payments amo^{ts} to	20,493	18	10¾			
Of which was renewed for balances on receiving Certificates formerly granted and paying ¼^{d} thereof	2,395	13	3¾			
Bal. Issued on new settlements				18,098	5	7
Issued 190 Certificates (not expressing Interest,) to Officers retiring & soldiers discharged since 18th Dec^{r}, 1780, (at which time the act was passed,) amo^{s} to				27,084	18	11
Debt incurred by settlements made as above				£51,541	14	6
Of which is discharged by part payment				6,358	10	00
Certificates outstanding for				£45,183	4	6

We can form but a very imperfect account of what the amount of accounts yet unsettled may be. Besides the 8th rg^{t} at Fort Pitt there are about 100 men of this State in Col^{o} Hazen's Regiment to be settled with, about 40 draughted into the Gen^{ls} Life guard & Corps of sappers & miners, two officers prisoners in New York, number of the Inv^{ds} transfered out of the Penn^{a} Regiments who are in Hospitals, part of the state navy, and a great number of soldiers discharged at Trenton.

I am with great respect
your Excellency's most obedient
very Humble Servant,
JN^{o}. NICHOLSON.

Directed,
(public service.)
His Excell^{y}, Joseph Reed, Esquire, presid^{t} Sup. Ex. Council.

Pres. Reed to Col. Adam Hubley, 1781.

Sir,

We have been obliged to detain your messenger one Day longer than we expected owing to the multiplicity of Business. I now set down to give you the sentiments of Council on your Letter of the 17th, Inst*. We have fully considered the Reasons offered for deviating from the numerical order of the Militia in the Performance of Duty, & have full Confidence in your Prudence & Discretion to exercise the Power requested, But we have ever found that a Departure from the Law has produced great Inconveniencies & Dissatisfaction, Tho' it may be disagreeable to the militia of the County to leave their Harvest, & it may meet with seeming Approbation at present, should the next Call be for actual Service with the army or on the Fronteers we think the Difference of Service will become a Cause of Complaint, & perhaps occasion a Refusal, so that upon the whole it will be best to proceed in the usual Course of Law. We have upon this Occasion also considered the act of Assy. and particularly the 30 Sect. & are of Opinion that it would be a Strain upon it to extend the Powers of Council on this Occasion so far.

Council approve your Call of the 2d Class of the 3, 4, 5, & 6 Battalions & would rather in Case of a Deficiency increase the Number of Classes than go out of the numerical Order, The Inconveniences of which we have often felt—With Respect to a Guard for the Convention Troops, we have sent you a Resolution by which you are impowered in this Exigency to draw forth 120 Men for a Guard, Such Guard to continue over the Prisoners till relieved, & then to finish the Tour at Lancaster, a Proportion of the Guard may answer Mr. Atlee's Demand to escort the seamen. With Respect to arms, we have them not to send to you. It was supposed the Militia Fines would have been a Fund to procure them but by some Means or other they have hitherto proved unproductive.

Your observations with Respect to the York militia are very just & we shall pay a proper Regard to them. If the Convention Prisoners had not come upon us by surprize we should have ordered York to furnish the Guard, & shall not be unmindful of them in future.

We doubt not in this Choice of Difficulties you will do for the best. The Assembly have not yet furnished us with the Means of giving the Assistance necessary, when they do, We shall chearfully apply it. Inclosed you have the Resolves of the House with Respect to militia Fines.

I am Sir,

Your obed. Hble. Serv.

Indorsed,

June 20 1781.

* See page, 211.

Pres. Reed to Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

By an Intimation received yesterday from the Hon. House I find they propose to finish their Session tomorrow. A Determination which I confess gives me great Concern, & has induced me to address them as Commander in Chief of the Militia of this State. While there was a hope of recruiting the Pennsylvania Line & turning the Strength of the State into an immediate & regular Channel of effective Discipline, the advantages were too obvious to admit the Interference of any other Consideration; but as past Experience now enables us to judge of the probable Issue of every Plan of this kind, it cannot be deem'd presumptuous or assuming to suppose that the Repetition of the same Mode by Classes, in which a Sum of Money will be substituted for personal Service will be attended with a Repetition of the same Disappointments, & that it will prove a Tax upon the Community generally, rather than a Supply for the Army. The Powers proposed to be given to the Council I conceive impracticable in Execution, & therefore must fail of their intended operation. Under these prospects, our Sister States, bound together with us in one common Bond of Interest, Honour & Affection, their Continental Troops torn from them by the Chance of War, in the Common Cause, are not only invaded, but suffering every species of Distress & Insult. The Supreme Council of America has called upon us to render them effective Assistance; Gen. Washington has join'd in this Call, & on this Consideration dispensed with a Demand of Militia from this State, to strengthen the Army under his immediate Command. Political Considerations of the most important Nature, our own present Safety & future Tranquillity, all combine to give Weight to these Recommendations. If we cannot give them the desired Aid in the Mode we wish, ought we not to do it in the Mode we can, & supply the Deficiencies of the Continental Troops by Militia? & should we not in like Circumstances expect this Attention from our Sister States? I conceive we should, & I flatter myself that with proper Encouragement from the Legislature, Pennsylvania would give them Proof of her Determined Zeal in support of the Common Interests of America, & of her Affection to her suffering Friends & Neighbours. Honoured with some Share of publick Confidence, & vested, for the time being with the Supreme Command, I shall most chearfully, with the Concert of the Councils, devote my Time & Abilities to this Important Duty, & at every Risque of Health & Life, lead those brave Men who may be disposed to follow me in such a Cause & on such an Occasion. But to render effective Assistance, to avail ourselves of the Disposition & Virtue of this Class of Men, to whose Services America is now much obliged, it is proper that they should be provided with the Necessaries of War while in the

Field, & their Families taken Care of at Home. That they should not now find, as they have ever done, that the disaffected, the timid & discontented, have borne a light & trifling Burthen, while they have supported a heavy one; often to the great Distress of their Families, & allways to their impoverishment. To obviate these it is necessary that where personal service is not given, it should, agreeable to the Constitution, be a just & real Equivalent; Part of which should be by way of advance to such as do take the Field, that the Mode of Collection should be facilitated; that effective Powers should be given to procure the necessary Transportation. The diffusing the Powers of enforcing the Duties of the Militia Law into a Number of Hands, & more especially transferring them to Justices of Peace who are appointed to Office for Talents & Qualifications totally different from those of a military Kind, will, I fear, distract, enfeeble, & in the End, destroy the whole System. I am persuaded it will appear upon due inquiry that the petitions to this purpose will be found to originate with those who rather suffer the Penalties than perform the Duties of the Militia Law, & who hope there will allways be in Case of Danger, a sufficient Spirit & Exertion in the State to defend it, while they screen themselves from the Burthen & Expence. I observe by the Votes a Supplement to the Militia Law to have had one Reading, had it been published, for Consideration, I proposed to have offered some Sentiments upon it, but I presume it is now laid aside. This Omission in our present Circumstances, will, I fear, be injurious to the Honour & Interests of the State, as I think from present Appearances we must expect that a Portion of Militia of this State, in common with its Neighbours, will not be dispensed with this Summer. And if so, the present Encouragement is too defective to promise that full & chearful compliance which will promote & answer the Service, & which has hitherto been given. All the Powers & Honours which attend this Command will, in the proper Course of Things, soon develve upon another, I cannot, therefore, have any other View in this Address than an anxious Desire to preserve the Honour & Support the Interests of the State in maintaining a well regulated Militia, which the Articles of Confederation, & the Voice of Wisdom & sound Judges declare not only to be highly proper, but indispensably necessary, & that I may do my Duty in making an honest & faithful Representation of our real Condition.

And have the Honor to be,

Sir, Your Obed. & Very H'bble Servt.

Indorsed, June 21, '81.

Pres. Reed to Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

In the present Situation of our publick Officers I cannot but think it a Duty to address a few observations to the Hon House on the present State of the Militia. If the Measures for recruiting the Line should be effectual, & Congress should be so well satisfied as to withdraw the Demand for the Militia, agreeable to the Proposition of one of the Delegates at the late Conference, our Embarrassments will cease on the Subject. But as it may happen that Congress or General Washington may not dispense with the Call, or that the Men may not be procured agreeable to the Requisition of Law, & the Militia may still be required by the House, I would consider the Probability of procuring the Service under the present Encouragement afforded by the Militia Laws. Our Sister States bound together with us in one common Bond of Interest, Honour & Affection—their Continental Troops torn from them by the Chance of War in the common Cause, are now suffering Species of Distress —they have a just & reasonable Claim to our Assistance, either by a certain & effective Recruit for the standing Army, or, that failing, to such Aid as we can give them, & which in like Circumstances we should expect. Honoured, &c.

Indorsed,—June 23, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Capt. Saml. Morris, of the Light Horse, 1781.

Sir,

By a Resolve of Congress of the 12th Inst., the Militia Cavalry are required to be sent forward with every Degree of Dispatch, without waiting for the March of the Militia Infantry required by Congress from this State. You will therefore be pleased to report to me the State of the Troop of this City as soon as possible, agreeable to my former Desire the Country Troops have already reported.

I am, Sir,

your Obed. Hble Serv.

Directed,

Capt. S. Morris.

Account of James Stevenson, 1781.

Dr. The State of Pennsylvania

1781.		Number of Certificates.	Total amount of Certificates issued.	Cash paid in Part of Certificates.
Ap'l 28	To Cash paid officers in Philadelphia on Account of Depreciation of Pay due them on Certificates. . . .	6	4,567 6 0	1,522 12 0
25	To Cash paid sundry Officers & Privates at Newton on Certificates issued by the Auditors there, amounting to .	166	30,469 12 10	6,788 5 6
May 8	To Cash paid sundry Officers & Privates at Easton, after deducting the Sums advanced at Trenton by the State Auditors on Certificates issued there, amounting to . .	155	20,492 15 9	4,457 11 8
14	To Cash paid sundry Officers and Privates at Reading by the Auditors there on Certificates issued, amounting to (having first deducted the Sums advanced at Trenton,)	260	30,546 4 9	9,702 12 8
14	To Cash paid sundry Officers & Privates at Lebanon by the Auditors there on Certificates issued, amounting to .	320	42,577 14 5	9,794 15 6
14	To Cash paid on Certificates at the Office in Philadelphia, which are in my Custody, amounting to, . .	10	1,171 18	390 11 0
29	To Cash paid ℔ Receipts in my Custody, on Accounts settled at the Office in Philadelphia,			1,077 5 0
29	To a Balance remaining in the Hands of John Thome, Esq., at Lebanon, for which he is accountable, . . .			205 4 6
		917	129,825 6 9	33,938 17 10
	To Balance, . . .			561 2 2
				£34,500 0 0

in Account with James Stevenson. Cr.

1781.		
April 22	By Cash received of David Rittenhouse, Esqr., at Philada., ...	£10,000
6	By Cash received ℔ Lieut. Fullerton at Easton,	1,500
6	By ditto ditto ℔ Lieut. Wigton at Easton,	3,000
May 1	By Cash received by Henry Haller, Esqr., of Reading, for the payment of the fifth & ninth Reg'ts stationed there, ...	10,000
1	By Cash received by John Thome & Robert Clarke, Esqs., of Lebanon, for the Payment of the 6th & 11th Reg'ts stationed there,	10,000
		£34,500

Errors excepted,

℔ JAS. STEVENSON.

Philada., June 21, 1781.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, June 23d, 1781.

Sir,

The serious purport of this letter (which I must at this time, tho' you are so deeply engag'd in other public business, press upon your Excellency & the Hon'ble Council) will I promise myself require no appology—any thing of this nature will be unnecessary. I shall therefore immediately proceed, and lay before you (in addition to the representations heretofore made in my letters of the 6th & 17th instant) our situatiqn with respect to the guards here.

This compleats the sixth day since they have drawn (excepting some flour) any Provissions. The whole of them have call'd this morning to inform me that they cannot think of continuing any longer on Duty in their present situation, that they could not help concluding from their treatment we either mean to starve or force them to some other extremity. I have us'd every exertion & influence on my part hitherto to satisfy them, with promises, which I find I cannot perform The Commissary (excepting flour) has no Provisions, nor has he means, (as he informs me,) to procure any. The cause of complaint is ripening every day more & more, & unless some steps are taken to remove them, the consequences which must follow must appear Obvious to your Excellency & the Hon. Council.

Our situation in other respects is no less alarming—my apprehentions with respect to the Country Militia is now verify'd, this day two of the four Classes ordered out to relieve the guards here came to Town, both of which scarcely amount to twenty men—from accounts of the other two Classes, I have no reason to expect more than about the same number,—so that it will take at this rate not less, in order to furnish the relieve & Guards to conduct prisoners to Easton, (in all 250 men,) the second Class of the remaining three Batallions, and the third Class of at least the five following Battallions, beginning with the first, and proceeding in their numerical order.

You have fully satisfy'd me in yours of the 20th instant,* that a strict attention to the letter of the Law is absolutely necessary, and that to deviate from the mode adopted to order out Classes would create disputes. I am sensible nothing but the greatest necessity would justify a violation thereof.

Necessity however, has brought me to deviate therefrom in one instance, which I beg leave to lay before your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council, and I cannot but be persuaded my conduct will appear to you justifiable, and meet with your approbation.

It is briefly this—In the first place I have already observ'd the prospects of the 4 Batallions who are to relief the present Guards—you will observe in room of 180 men I shall scarcely receive one third of that number. Monday next compleats the tour of the Old

* See page 218.

Guard, who cannot be prevailed on to remain a moment longer than their tour. We have upwards of 1700 Prisoners, exclusive of near 150 Officers. The Inhabitants of this Town have no Arms, they are kept in a continual ferment & apprehentions—So that in short we are reduc'd to this one alternative, only either to be left to the mercy of those Prisoners and their Emissaries, or procure an immediate Guard. The latter I have adopted, and for the reasons already given I have ordered the 3d Class of the eighth Batallion (Town Militia) for Duty. Your Excellency & the Hon'ble Council will, I hope, after considering our situation approve my proceedings & furnish me with the necessary resolves.

Before I conclude, I must observe to your Excellency & Council that the 7th, 9th & 10th Batallions who are to compleat the second Class of Lanc^r County Militia and from whom I am to expect the Guards for conducting the Prisoners which lately arrived here, to Easton, as unfortunately those Batallions who are nearest the Frontiers—vizt, Paxton, Hanover & Donegall, very few from those parts (excepting it is from Donegall) will at this season, and the apprehentions of the Savages on the Frontiers, be prevailed on to march this way.

Colo. Wood, who has the superintendency of the Convention troops, informs me he will not be ready to move from this for some considerable time. He has this day, in consequence of powers from Congress invested in him, sent out to sieze Cattle for the use of those Troops. The militia doing duty here must for the future receive the supplies in the same way untill other steps can be adopted.

I have the Honor to be with every respect,
your Excellency's most Ob^t hum^l Servt,
AD^m HUBLEY, J^r, L^t L^r C^y.

We have this moment discovered an attempt by the Prisoners to undermine the stockade in order to effect their escapes, however the timely discovery has prevented its being put into execution.

Directed,—(On public service.)

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, Presid^t of Pennsy^a, Philadelphia.

VALENTINE ECKERT TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Reading, 24th June, 1781.

Sir

On the 16th ins^t arrived at this Place under Guard of the York County Militia, about 1050 of the Convention Prisoners of War, (63 of whom are Britons, the remainder Germans,) and encamped on the Banks of Schuylkill, near this Town. A few Days before their arrival Captain Alexander called on me and informed me that they were to proceed to Connecticut, and requested me to provide a Guard to escort them to Eastown. But on their arrival here, Orders arrived from the Board of War that they should remain in Pennsyl-

vania, and those now here were ordered by Colo. Wood to remain here until further Orders. Whereupon I judged it proper and necessary to place Guards round their Encampment, and have for that Purpose called out two Classes out of the Companies of the Sixth Berks County Regiment of Militia. Major Bayley is now come to this Town by Order of Col. Wood, to take upon him the Direction of those Prisoners, and has requested me to continue the Guards. I therefore request your Excellency's and the Honorable Councils advice and Direction in this matter, which shall be punctually and implicitly obeyed. The Prisoners since their arrival here have behaved themselves very orderly and Peaceably.

Several more have joined them since the 16th instant, so that their number now amounts to near Eleven hundred.

I am with great Respect, Sir, your most obedient and most humble Servant,

VALENTINE ECKERT, Lt B.

Directed,—Public.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of Pennsylvania.

Circular of Pres. Reed to County Lieutenants, 1781

Sir,

The change which has necessarily taken Place in the Militia by substituting the paymt of Gold & Silver in Lieu of Paper for Fines will require your particular Attention. We would have you in the first Place set about the Collection of the old Fines agreeable to the late Resolution of the House of Assembly, viz. one State Dollar for 75 of the old Continental Dollars in which the Fines have been assessed. And in future we would recommend to you in Case the Militia are called out to set about the Collection with all possible Expedition having had full Experience of the Injuries & Injustice arising from Delay.

I am with due Regard, Sir,
Your Obed. Hble Ser.

J. R.

Directed,

To Lieut of the County of ———.

Pres. Reed to John L. Clarkson, Sec'y of Treasury Board, 1781.

Sir,

In answer to your Favour of this Day respecting Major Wirts I beg leave to observe that notwithstanding he derived his appointmt from the Council of safety he was never considered as a state Officer his Services being wholly of the Continental kind such as regulating

the Troops in their Quarters, &c., & receiving orders from the Board of War as his superiors. It is very probable that this appointm^t has excused him from Militia Duty & other Burthens & that as the appointm^t has been exceedingly easy, so the amount of the Demand may perhaps be too great. I would also observe that it has not been unusual for the State to make an appointm^t the Pay of which has been satisfied by the Continent where the service was rendered to the Continent as in the Case of Waggon Masters, &c. &c. So that the Council are clearly of Opinion his Demand should be upon the Continent not on the State to whom he never applied for Pay or Rations at any Time before that we can discover.

I am Sir.

Indorsed,

June 25th, 1781. To John L. Clarkson, Sec^y Treasury Board.

Pres. Reed to Col. Robert Levers, 1781.

Sir,

We lately forwarded you a Commission as Lieut. of the County of Northampton in the Execution of which we shall much depend upon your Activity, firmness & Zeal. We must recommend it to you to pay a strict adherence to the Militia Law on all Occasions having ever found deviations to be attended with much Embarassm^t. As the serving Militia are to be paid out of the Fines of the Delinquents you cannot be too particular & expeditious in collecting them as you will find the Delay only breeds Discontent as well with those who are to receive as to pay. The General has ordered the Convention Prisoners into your County, a Measure which we fear will be very distressing & which we did all in our Power to prevent. But as it is, you and the other Gentlemen must exert yourself to give all necessary Assistance. It is impossible for us as we are at present informed to know what number of Militia to order out for Guards you will therefore consult with Col. Wood, Col. Taylor or other commanding officer of the present Guard & call out so many classes as will be necessary & when you have informed us we will confirm what you have done. We would have you to settle frequently with the Sub-Lieutenants & keep all your Accounts as regular as possible paying from time to time the Monies arising to the Treasurer of the County.

Should any thing occur which may appear difficult you will always apply to us as we shall be ready to give you all possible Advice & Assistance.

I am Sir, Your Obed Ser.

Directed,—Robert Levers, Esqr, Lieut. of Northampton County.

Indorsed,—June 25th, 1781. To Colonel Robert Levers, Lieutenant of Lancaster County.

Wm. Scott to James Thompson, 1781.

York, June 25th, 1781.

Sir,

I rec'd your favour of the 16th instant—am much obliged for the News Paper sent me, and begs leave to inform you that some of the Volunteers, whom I have enquired at concerning the arms, says, that when they came to Philada., they were march'd down Town near to the lower end of Water street, and delivered up their arms in a house where there was Public Cloathing, and there were furnished with other arms, and does not remember of their Captain being Present, and my reason for sending for them was in consequence of his Excellencey General Reed, Promise (when at York,) to have them sent to us if call'd for, and said farther, that if we would raise a Troop of Light Horse, he would endavour to Procure some equipage for them, But if it can't be had we must do the best we can to Provide for ourselves.

Excuse haste. I am, sir, your Friend &Humble servt.,

WM. SCOTT.

Directed,—Col. James Thompson.

Memorial of Capt. Thomas Robinson, 1781.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of Pennsylvania in General assembly met.

The Memoral of Thomas Robinson of the County of Northumberland Very Respectfuly Sheweth,

That your Memorialist ——— With great Difficuly Raised a Company of Rangers for the Defence of the frontiers of this state and Ever anxious to Render Every service for the Distressed Part of the Country where now stationed, find it Impracticable for me to Render those Services I most ardently want to Do, the Soldiers are So Distetute of Every Kind of Necesary Clothing as to Render many of them Incapable of Doing any Duty, the Great Scarcity of ammunition is another Difficulty we at Present Labour Under, as also the want of Provisions, since the Ninth or tenth Instant they Have not Had one Single Pound of meat. The want of a surgeon is another Difficulty, we Have not a surgeon in the County nor within forty miles that Can Render any Service to Either the sick or wounded soldiers or Inhabitants should any be.

& Whereas your Honourable House in your first sessions Devided the Militia Into Classes in order to Raise men to fill the Line, Each District or County to Render their Quotas of men of fifteen Pounds In Lieu of Every man Defficent this Sum was Readily given By the militia, & In consequence Conceiving it to be the Bounty Ordered By your Honb^l House Inlisted Nineteen Good men for that Bounty on Terms if I Could not make it Good they should be Discharged, Nor was I aware of my Mistake till Informed by Council in Febu^r

Last notwithstanding I Have Been able to keep them together yet Hoping your Honourable House in your wisdom will think Proper to Enable Council to allow the Extra Bounty, otherways I must be under the Dissagreable necesity of Discharging 19 of my Best men. The Remaining Part of the Bounty & the whole Pay of my Company is another Object I Earnestly Intreat your Honourable House to atend to, & Hoping you In your wisdom will Take some speedy & Effectual means for meaintaining and suplying said Company such as to the wisdom of your Hon^bl House may seem most Expedient & necesary.

and as in Duty &c.,

THOMAS ROBINSON, Capt Penns^a Rangers.

Northumberland, June 16th, 1781.

J. L. CLARKSON SEC'Y OF TREASURY BOARD TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Treasury Office, June 25, 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honor to inform your Excellency by direction of the Board of Treasury that Mr Christian Wirts* who has acted as Town Major in Lancaster under a state appointment, among other Charges places to the account of the United States his Pay & Rations as a Major in the army, which the Board conceive ought to be paid by the state of Pennsylvania; yet if Council should think otherwise, the Board will be glad to have their Reasons as soon as possible, and the Charges will be paid by the United States.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect

your Excellency's most obed. Hum. Servant,

J. L. CLARKSON, Sec^y.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE TO V. P. MOORE, 1781.

Tuesday, June 26th, 1781.

Sir,

The Treasurer of Northampton County Mr William Gray has applied to me for £150 new State Money in order to Exchange for the old Continental in his County according to act and Resolution of Assembly, I apprehend by the Act I am not to grant it without the approbation of Council, therefore request your order in that matter.

I am Sir, your most obed^t &c.,

DAV^d RITTENHOUSE, Treas.

Directed,—To the Honble William Moore, Esq.

N. B. I have a Certificate Signed by Fredrick Antes one of the Magistrates of Northumberland that s^d Gray is the Treasurer of the County.

* See page 226.

Petition of Philadelphia County Light Horse, 1781.

June ye 26th, 1781.

To his Excellency the President & the Honourable Council of the state of Pennsylvania.

The Philadelphia County Light Horse being sensible of the Respect and Attention that always should be paid to our President, present their Compliments and request that the Expences & Cost that occur'd last year when called to the City of Philadelphia and from thence to Trentown; should be taken into Consideration and that the County Lieutenants should have orders to adjust and pay them of, flattering ourselves with the Hopes of that we marched with cheerfulness and performed with Deligence Every order that was Issued, we have not the least doubt but you are Conscious of the Extravagant prices we paid whilst we lay in the City and of the sums we laid out whilst in the Jersey, as none of the Inhabitants would take Certificates when we ware sent on Command we beg leave to assure you that there are several more Expenses which we dont charge (tho' paid,) and Cannot at present obtain receipts for. Now that we are called to hold ourselves in readiness at a moments warning we mean to obey with spirit and wish only for our President to Command us.

Col. Coats has assured us that he lay before your Honourable Body our receipts for the sums we laid out which we request should be Liquidated.

Signed in Behalf of the Troop.

DAVID SNYDER, Capten.
ABRAHAM DUFFIELD, L^t.
CASPER DULL, Cor^t.

Directed,
To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Reed to Valentine Eckert, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 24* has been duly received & Council much approved of your conduct with Respect to the Prisoners who have come among us at a Time when we had every Reason to believe they would be sent to New England. We have as by the within Resolve directed the Call of the Militia as stated in your Letter which will be your authority, and in Case of Relief you will particularly attend to calling the other Militia so as to give no Cause of Complaint on acct. of the Diffrence of Service between Duty over the Prisoners & the Field. With Respect to the Disposal of the Prisoners, it is the Desire of Council that they may be hutted at some small Dis-

* See pages 225.

tance from the Town where Wood & Water are convenient. Col. Morgan has mentd. a Peice of Ground which belong'd to the late Proprietaries as very convenient & proper, but this is left to yourself & Major Baily or whoever may be appointed by the Board of War to superintend the Premises with whom we would wish you to preserve the most friendly Communication & advise with them in every Thing respecting the Guards. The Militia Fines accruing in future are to be paid in hard money at 3s. 6 ⅌ Day, The arrearage of former Fines or in state money or specie at the Exchange of one state Dollar for 75 of the old. These arrearages have ever been the subject of much Clamor, we would wish you would exert yourself to have them collected & paid. We think our accounts in the Militia Line may now be kept with greater ease & Regularity, & that it would be well to settle all former Business to the Day when the Paymt. in hard money commenced & then start in the new Line.

I am Sir,

Your obed. Hble. Servt.

J. R.

Col. Val. Eckert Lieut. of Berks County Reading.

Indorsed,

June 27, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Lt. Col. Forrest, 1781.

Sir,

We received a Return of the artillery Reg. this morning signed by you but we apprehend by the following Extract of a Letter from his Excelly. Gen. Washington that some farther Explanation will be necessary before any Proceedings can be had in Consequence of the Resolution of Congress of the 25 Inst.

Here insert Gen. Washington's Letter.*

We herefore enclose you the Return again untill the Matter is settled, In the mean Time I remain.

Sir, Your Obed. Hble Servt.

L. Col. Forest

Pres. Reed to Col. Adam Hubley, 1781.

Sir,

In addition to what we wrote you last by your late Letter that the Militia of Paxton Donnegal &c., would be better satisfied to march to the Fronteers & Cumberland having borne a heavy Proportion of that Service we have sent you a Resolve to call out 50 men intending that you should draw them as above explained unless some good Reason to the contrary occurs.

* Not found.

You will observe by the publick Papers that from the 11th June the Pay of militia was ⅔ hard money ⅓ Day, that on the 18th, all arrearages of Taxes & Militia Fines to be paid in State money or specie at the Rate of one State Dollar for 175 old Continental Dollars. We would wish you to set about the Collection of these arrearages with all possible Expedition regulating your accounts according to the above Charges, and you may depend on every assistance & Support from us which the Nature & Duty of our officers will admit.

I am Sir with muchsteem,

Your Obed. & very Hble. Serv.

Col. A. Hubley, Lieut. of Lancaster County.

Indorsed,

June 27 1781.

Pres. Reed to Assembly, 1781.

June 27, 1781.

Sir,

We presume the Impatience of the House to finish the session prevented their acquainting us in what Manner the immediate necessities of the state as laid before the House at the late Conference are provided for. We have heard by common Report that a subscription has been made, but unless a speedy Collection follows we shall find ourselves exceedingly distressed. The Council therefore would be obliged to you for Information, & also to forward the Collection with all possible Expedition. The discounting former Subscriptions or Debts or lending in Goods will not answer our present Purposes, so that we hope the Gentlemen who collect the subscriptions will decline that mode of Paying which will not by any Means relieve us in this Hours of peculiar Exigencie.

I am Sir, with due Regard,

Your Obed Hble Servt.

The Hon. F. A. Muhlenberg Esqr., speaker of the House of Assby.

Pres. Reed to Lt. Wm. Scott, Lt. of York Co., 1781.

Sir,

The Convention Prisoners having been unexpectedly ordered into this State, it has been thought proper to station the British of that Body in your County; and it is the Advice of the Council that you mark out some suitable Place, well wooded & watered, for their accomodation, where they may build Huts, which are to be picketed; if within a small Distance of York Town so much the better. In your Proceedings you will constantly advise with Col. Wood, or such Officer as may be appointed by the Board of War to superintend the Prisoners, so as to preserve the utmost Harmony.

As Guards must necessarily be called from the Militia, we have inclosed you a Resolve to that Effect; & as their Times expire you will have a Relief regularly provided from Time to Time. We also send you a Resolution with Respect to the Arrearages of Militia Fines, which we think ought to be collected forthwith. And that it would be well to have all the Accounts closed up to the Inst., when the Assembly voted that the Pay should be 3s. 6 ⅌ Day, in Gold or Silver. This will also enable you & the Sub Lieutenants in future to keep your Accounts with less Embarrassm^t, & to make more speedy Collection. Nothing could keep the serving Militia in better Temper than regular Paym^t of their Wages, which must be done by regular Collection of Fines. I beg therefore you would pay it the utmost Attention. Col. Morgan will write you with Respect to the Supply of the Prisoners, & as he sends you hard Money, we hope it will receive your Credit.

I am Sir,

Your Obd. Hble. Ser.

Indorsed,—1781, June 27th.

James Marshall to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Washington County, June 27th, 1781.

S^r,

Since I had the honour of Addressing your Excellency last, the old Enemies of this government and their adherents have Exerted themselves to the Utmost to prevent this County being organized. On the 5th Inst. a Council of the Militia officers of Youghagena County was held at their Court-house, and in Consequence of s^d Council, the fifth part of the Militia of s^d County was drafted for General Clark's Expedition, but the people did not Conceive they were Under the Jurisdiction of Virginia, therefore they denied their Authority, and almost Universaly Refused doing duty under any government whatever untill the line between the States is actually run.

Upon finding the Commissioners did not Arrive by the time appointed to run the line, I did not know well what part to act, fearing the Consequence of Involving the good Subjects of this State in a Civil War with Col. Penticost Banditti and a new Government party that Exists here, and of Exposing our frontier Settlements to the greatest danger from the Indians, (who no doubt well know our unhappy Situation.) I thought it most Advisable to postpone Organizing the Militia untill the Commissioners arrive on the spot. Let me hope then that your Excellency will forward the Commissioners with all possible Dispatch, as it is Clearly Impossible to do any thing to purpose in this County untill their arrival. The Expiration of the several periods Given us to expect them, discour-

ages our best friends, and Gives the aforementioned party great Opportunitys of keeping up the Confusion, which they hope will issue in driving the whole people into their favourite scheme of New Government. Some of those Gentlemen formerly Elected members of Virginia Assembly, on this side the Mountains, are lately gone down on no other business than to Endeavour delaying the line, in order to forward their business of new government, and a Committee has been formed in this County for some time who go well nigh assuming the government of the Country, which appears preparatory to something more Compulsive.

Let me again urge the Necessity of the Commissioners being on the line as soon as possible from this one Consideration, that a failure on their part will Expose the friends of this government to the Contempt and Malice of their enemies. There is at this time upwards of two thousand five hundred Effective men in this County, but if we remain much longer in our present Situation, we must unavoidably be reduced, either by Internal or External Enemies, and perhaps by both. On the 17th Inst., a party of about twenty Indians attacked the frontier Inhabitants, wounded one man, and took off a whole family prisoners, which has occasioned great part of the frontiers to be evacuated.

I have the honor to be
your Excellency's most Obedient
and very humble servant,
JAMES MARSHALL.

Directed,

His Excellency President Reed.

Pres. Reed to Col. Ab'm Smith, 1781.

Sir,

I enclose you an order to Call forth one Class of Militia to relieve the poor Inhabitants of Bedford, who are in the greatest Distress. We have directed the Militia of your County in Northumberland to be relieved by Militia from Lancaster, which will be an Ease to your County, exchanging two Classes for one. The Convention Prisoners to the Number of 4000 having been march'd into this State, we have new Militia called out from the City, from Lancaster, York, Berks, & Northampton, & must probably keep them out for a long Space of Time. On the 11th Inst., the Assembly fixed the Pay at 8s. 6 ℔ Day, in Gold or Silver, the Fines to be collected in the same Specie.—On the 13th the Arrearages of all Taxes & Militia Fines were directed to be collected in State Money or Specie at the Rate of one State Dollar for 75 old Continental, in which they had been assessed.—We most earnestly wish you would have

the Accounts settled accordingly, & in the future Calls cause the Collection of Fines to be made with the utmost Dispatch, which you will observe is the more necessary as we can give no Assistance from the publick Treasury till the Fines of the County are ascertained.—We are apprehensive that if we do not meet with more success in recruiting the Line under the Law of the present Session than the last much Dependance will necessarily be placed on the Militia, which, therefore, you will get in the best Order possible.

I am Sir,
with due Regard,
Your Obed. Hble. Serv.

Directed,
Col. Abm. Smith, Lieut of Cumberland.
Indorsed,—June 28, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Lt. Col. Adam Hubley, 1781.

June 27, 1781.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 23d* June has been duly received & we have been doing every thing in our Power to relieve you from the present distress which was not unforeseen. We have from time to time apprized the Assembly of the approaching Difficulty but unfortunately the necessary Precautions were not taken, We have now sold a Parcel of Linnens we had in the State store to raise some hard money, they have produced £600 specie a part of which we have directed forward to Mr. Miller & the Residue to Easton & Reading where there are the like Distresses & Expresses are now waiting. With Respect to the Militia the Council are satisfied with your Proceeding under present Circumstances & inclosed is a Resolve conformably—Arms we have not to send so that you must do in that article as well as you can. We are very sorry for the Necessity of pressing but it cannot be expected that Persons will starve in the midst of Plenty. The stationing the Convention Troops in Pennsylva was a distressing Measure at best & more especially as it came so suddenly upon us. We must beg you to endeavour to get along as well as you can we hope when the taxes, Militia Fines, &c. are once payable in hard Money we shall find less embarrasment.

I am in Haste Sir,
Your Obed & very
Hbble ser.

Directed,
Col. A. Hubley, Lieut. of Lancaster.

* See page 224.

Col. James Wood to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, 30th June, 1781.

Sir,

I have lately received Instructions from the Board of War to Hut the Convention Prisoners, the British in the Neighbourhood of York Town, and the Germans near Reading; but have not as yet received your Determination with respect to the Identical Places, or the manner of executing the work. The Guards for the British while the Huts are Building & Stockading ought not to be less, in my Opinion, than 150 men with their Proper Officers, as I am Confident they will improve every Opp^y to effect Escapes. I think a Guard of 50 will be very sufficient for the Germans, and that it will be unnecessary to inclose them with Picquets, as none of them have attempted to Escape for a Considerable time past. I shall keep the British at this Place till I hear from your Excellency. I have the Honour to be with Great Respect.

Sir,

Your very ob't Serv't.

JAMES WOOD.

Directed,

Public Service.

His Excellency, President Reed, Philadelphia.

Cap. Chas. Cesna to Col. James Morgan, Jun., 1781.

Bedford, June 30th, 1781.

Sir,

The Bearer Mr. Isaac Worrell one of my Deputys in the purchasing way in this County goes to you for the express purpose of getting your advice in order to direct and govern me in the Departments, the distresses of this County is truly great, Murders and depredations are committed almost every week, and not a single Article can be had for the Money that's now current; I am even threatened and inveighed against by the people, for not having suitable provisions for such as do Militia duty, and it is impossible for me to get it for the Money I have; I am indebted to numbers in Consequence of such articles as we purchased and so are my Deputies, having engaged on the Credit of the Money and wch is now useless; and unless something be done in order to enable us to get provisions for such as are employed in protecting the County, I am afraid the settlement brake up totally and that very soon. It is impossible for me to send you an accurate Return having purchased on the credit of the Money wch was in so fluctuating a state while it dubiously passed as to leave no room for a certain price in any Article; and now no person wou'd

receive any quantity of it for a single Beef Cattle, I beg you wil dispatch the Bearer with all due haste and I hope in such a manner equiped as will enable me and those that are employed by me in the service to do the requisite and necessary Duty expected of us.

I am sir, with great respect,
Your most obed't
H'ble serv't.
CHA^s CESSNA, C^ap.

Directed,

On public Business.

Col^o Jacob Morgan, Jr., Superintendent of the Commisssioners of Purchases for Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

H. Christ and H. Haller to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Reading, July 1, 1781.

Sir,

We think it necessary to acquaint your Excellency that the Lands on which the Town is Built and that which is deamed a Commons is one and the same Tract purchased by the Proprietor* for the purpose for erecting the Town thereon if the Land from the Edge of the Town to the Extent of said Tract are a Commons, as it was generally understood by the Inhabitants, then the Persons mentioned in our Letter to the chief Justice have encroached on the Publick.

There is also a publick Ferry and a Plantation on said Tract which used to pay Rent to the Proprietors. How shall we proceed with them and a number of Persons who have Inclosures on said Lands for which we have demanded Summones from Chief Justice McKean in order to proceed against them on account of Encroachments made on the Commons of the Town of Reading.

We are your Excellencies
Obedient & most humble serv^t,
HENRY CHRIST,
HENRY HALLER.

Pres. Reed to Capt. Thos. Robinson, 1781.

Sir,

I duly received your Letter ⅊ Mr Gray acquainting us of the great Want of Cloathing for your Company, ammunition & Pay Which would have been answered sooner but I waited to have it in my Power to inform you that we had been able to comply in some Degree with your Request. At that time we were not possessed of money to procure any of the Articles. It has been with the greatest

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 780.

Difficulty since that we have been able to procure you the Supply now forwarded consisting of Waistcoats, Shoes, Shirts & Ammunition which go to the Care of Col. Hunter. It is not possible to form a just idea of the Embarassments we have been in & yet are for want of money—Paper money having been stopp'd by the Assembly or the Treasury, & there being no Specie not even a single Dollar in it, the publick Credit exhausted & various Demands of the most important kind pressing us nothing but a Sense of publick Duty could have prevailed on us to continue in so disgraceful a Situation & in which we are obliged to remain for at least 3 months to come as it will be that Time before any Taxes can be received in Consequence of the late Law; We must therefore entreat you to use the present supply with the utmost Frugality as it will not be in our Power to do any Thing more for some time.

We should have gladly made Provision for a Surgeon but on Inquiry of the Character & Abilities of the Person recommended from Lancaster County we found Him very deficient. Another Gent. offered himself here whose name I do not recollect but some solid Objections were also made to him—As there are many young Gent. who have quitted the Army we will endeavour to procure one. We appointed Mr Gray Paymaster of the County & sent by him a sum of Money to pay the Men which we doubt not has been duly applied & also the £6 difference in Bounty of 15 men who had been inlisted at a Bounty of £15 agreeable to your Letter.

The Inhabitants of Northampton who have suffered extremely from the Indians have lately adopted a Plan of Defense which bids fairer to give effectual Checks to the Enemy than any yet devised & which we could wish to see copied in other Places, viz: A number of active well arm'd young Fellows associate together in Parties from 10 to 20 & whenever the Indians appear they pursue with all Expedition; there have been several Instances lately of their overtaking the Savages by this means, recovering the Captives & destroying the Indians: Council gave £25 hard money lately to a Party for their Activity & Bravery in this Way.

Indorsed,
July 1st, 1781.

Isaac Mason to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I having and opportunity by Express I beg leive to Equent your Excellency the distress situation of our Country, that the Indians has laid waste all the settlement between the Allegania and Youghagania Rivers as high up as Sweakley and they took a prisonier where Genl Bradocks road crosses the sd Creek a few days ago and I am Doubtfull that if there is not some plan fell on to harass them

in their own country that they will drive the Inhabitants this side of the mountain.

I had great hopes that Genl. Clark would Penetrated into their country with a strong force but I have almost lost hopes of his going, as he has got but one hundred and forty regulars from Virginia and did expect the Virginia militia this side the mountains but they refuse doing duty as there has not been any orders for the militia that hold under the state of Pennsylvania. Coll. Hays gives public notice to the Inhabitants of this county to meet, that he had somthing of Consequence to Communicate to them, accordingly a number were assembl^d and he there openly declared unto them that he had a sum of money put into his hands by council for the Exergency of the County and father Equented them that that sum of money was to be applied to what use the Officers and principal people thought most Expedient for their Protection.

Upon Deliberation they Entered into Resolves to Assist Genl. Clark with men to be raiz^d by Voluntiers or Draught as the Genl. had given us a good assureance of his rout and that it was his Intentions to strike the Delawas, Shawney and Windoit Nations and that his principal Object was the Shenduskies Towns and he likewise assured us that their was plenty of Provisions for the Campaign &c.

I Beg leave to subscribe myself

your most obedient & very Humble Servt,

ISAAC MASON.

July 1st, 1781.

Directed,

Joseph Read, Esqr, President of the Supreme Executive Council Pennsylvania.

Sec'y Matlack to Capt. Nicholson, 1781.

Sir,

His Excellency the President communicated to the Council your request respecting the manning of the Ship Trumbull* and I am Ordered to inform you that the Council consent to your exertions to compleat the manning of the said ship, you taking especial care that no negro slaves or bound servants be taken, nor any of the river craft be on any pretence visited nor any seamen taken from outward bound vessels, nor any other persons taken than actual seamen found on board inward bound vessels. I am also ordered to request you will report to Council the names of the Seamen you may obtain, that if any extraordinary cases should occur the Council may be enabled to judge concerning it.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 779.

The Council more readily concur in your proposal from a confidence they have that you will be particularly careful that no abuses are committed, nor any unnecessary violences made use of.

I am with great respect
your most obedient servant,
T. M., Secy.

July 2, 1781.

Directed,
Capt. Nicholson.

Indorsed,
1781, July 2nd. To Captn. Nicholson of the Trumbull Frigate.

Gen. Wm. Irvine to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July 2d, 1781.

Sir,

I find a number of people here are very desirous to enlist men for the War—the 8th Section of the Law says that any person who shall Enlist, and deliver to the proper officer one able bodied Recruit, shall be exempted from all Militia duty for and during the term of such Enlistment—as this is a Voluntary afair, I think it would be well to indulge them. If the Honble the Council are of this opinion, a few attestations for the War will be necessary at each Post. The exemption from Militia duty seems a very aluring bait—particularly to luke warm whigs and monied men.

I have the honor to be
with perfect respect,
your Excellency's
most obedt Humble Servt,
Wm IRVINE.

Directed,
Public Service.
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, Philadelphia.

James Perry to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Westmoreland County, Savikley, July 2d, 1781.

Sir,

Understanding that an Express is going to Philadelphia from Col. Lochry, I shall just inform you our Country is in the utmost Confusion at present, about three weeks ago one James Chambers was taken Prisoner about two miles from my House; last Friday two young Women were killed in Ligionier Valley—and this Morning a small Garrison at Philip Clinglesmiths, about eight miles from this & four or five miles from Hannas Town, consisting of between twenty

and thirty men Women & Children was destroy'd, only three made their Escape, the Particulars I cannot well inform you as the Party that was sent to bury the Dead are not yet Returned, and I wait every Moment to hear of or perhaps see them strike at some other Place, that Party was supposed to be about seventeen, and I am apt to think there are still more of them in the Settlements. Our Frontiers are in a very deplorable situation, being so extensive that the State Company under Capt Sherer and the few yet rais'd on the Continental Establishment, tho' posted as advantageously as possible to make Discoveries, yet the Parties are so small that they are not able to oppose a Large Body when they do discover them. We have long wish'd for a Campaign to be carried into the Indian Country, which alone under Providence can give us ease in this Quarter, & which might be accomplished without any great Expense was Government to give proper Encouragement, and send some small assistance. Some of your Officers in this County are much discouraged, and their Influence weakened by Complaints made to your Honourable Board by some of our last elected members which I fear was rather out of Mallice to the Persons complained of than from any sufficient Cause, or out of Design to serve their Country. I should be sorry to debilitate the Influence that any of our Members might have with your Honourable Board; but I should be happy in seeing every Officers Conduct candidly examined before he is condemn'd. I am

Sir, with the Utmost Respect,

your Excellency's

most Obedt & very humbl Servt,

JAMES PERRY.

PRES. REED TO M. MUHLENBERG, SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY, 1781.

Sir,

We are sorry to be under the Necessity of again applying to you respecting the Subscription Money which has been depended upon by the Council to answer some Calls of the most important & indispensable Kind. We find Mr. Rittenhouse has received but Six hundred & Eighty five Pounds, & we have been obliged to draw Orders upon him to the Amt of £2500 to feed the Troops & Prisoners & Purchase Ammunition & pay the Debts contracted last Sessions at the Instance of the House. We are persuaded the House must have depended on the Committee to collect the Money or they would not have broke up after the Communications made to them without complying with one of the two Things requested, viz., To supply us with Money to carry on the publick Business or relieve us from the Responsibility we lay under. We therefore beg you would use your Influence with the Gentlemen appointed by the Committee to bring the Business to

the desired Conclusion. If we should be disappointed in our Expectations on this Subject we shall be obliged to call the Assembly before the Day of Adjournment, as no Money can reasonably be expected from Taxes before that Time—A Measure which would be inconvenient to the Members & very disagreeable to us.

The Council request you will inform them what Expectations you have with Respect to the Sum & the Time of Collection, that we may be able to give some Answer to the pressing Applications to which we are daily & hourly subjected.

I am Sir,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,
July, 3d, 1781.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, July 3, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed, an Extract of a Letter from the Commander in Chief, requesting 300 Rifle Men from this State, and a Resolve of Congress of the 2d Instant on the same Subject.*

I have the Honor to be
with very great Regard,
your Excellency's
most obedient & most
humble Servant,
SAM. HUNTINGTON, President.

Directed,
His Excellency, President Reed.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Washington, 1781.

Extract of a Letter from General Washington, dated Head Quarters, New Windsor, 24th June, 1781.

Sir,

Towards effecting the intended operations of the ensuing Campaign, I had made a requisition to the State of Pensylvania for a number of militia to join the army under my immediate command—but that State having been called upon at the same time by Congress for a number of their militia for the southern service, his Excellency the President has informed me that it will not be in their power to fulfil both requisitions. I have therefore withdrawn my request.

In the course of our intended operations, I shall have occasion for a body of about three hundred expert rifle men, for most necessary

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 778.

and essential services; and as all those of our troops, composing the line of the army, from whence I could hope to draw such a Corps, are gone southward, so that it is become impracticable to supply them here. I have written to his Excellency President Reed, begging that he will furnish me with such body of troops from that State to serve with this army during this Campaign.

If Congress should approve this measure, I have to request that they will be pleased to signify their approbation to Mr. President Reed and enforce this requisition, accompanying it with a promise of repayment to the State of whatever Bounty they shall engage, with pay, rations, and compleat Continental Establishment equal to the other troops in the Field, during the time they are in service. This measure I deem necessary, because I suppose they cannot be raised as militia.

A Corps of men composed of each expert marksman, being in my opinion, of so very great importance in the execution of our Intentions, I have the most sanguine Hope that this requisition will meet with the most speedy success.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

The United States in Congress assembled, July 2d, 1781.

A Letter of the 24th June from Genl Washington was read, in forming Congress that he has requested three Hundred expert Rifle Men to be furnished by the State of Pensylvania for the present Campaign, whereupon

Resolved,

That Congress approve the said request, and that his Excellency the president and supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania be informed that the United States in Congress assembled will allow a Deduction of a like Number from the Infantry Militia required of the said State for the Southern Service, and that whatever Bounty they shall think proper to grant to this Corps of Troops shall be repaid to the State, and the men shall be allowed pay, Rations and compleat continental Establishment equal to the other Troops in the field during the Time they are in Service.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA. THOMSON. Sec'y.

John Nicholson to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philada., July 8d, 1781.

May it please your Excellency,

We have closed the Audit at this place and made a State of the settlements, which is now before your Hon'ble Board. Nothing further remains to be done except the Settlements with those of the

General's Guards and the Corps of Sappers and Miners as were draughted from the Pennsylvania Regiments, and also that part of Colo. Hazen's Regiment returned of the quota of the Penna. Line; of these the settlements are so far made here, that I shall be able to Complete them myself, at the places where the men are, for which purpose, if it is the desire of Council, I shall set out in a few days. About three thousand four hundred pounds (Together with a balance of £1050 remaining in my hands) will be necessary to discharge the one third part of the depreca due to them respectively. I suppose it will be difficult to travel on other than hard money, I mean therefore, to take of my own for that purpose, and doubt not the State will reimburse me in like kind.

I have thought it unnecessary to render my Cash Acct. to the State Auditors untill after my return, so that there may be but one settlement of the whole.

There are the Accts. of General Hand & Major Sproat, his Aid De Camp, unsettled, these I shall adjust at West Point, on my way. I believe they are the only officers of the Penna. Line whose accts. are not; Except those above, & a Doctor Brown, who is on the retiring or half pay list, but is lately gone to England, and will not perhaps return to Claim it.

I am, with due respect,

Your Excellency's most obedt, Humble servant,

JNo NICHOLSON.

Directed,

His Excelly, Joseph Reed, Esquire, presidt.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris Esq. Superintendent of Finance, 1781.

Sir,

The daily Applications that we receive with Respect to supplies make it necessary to request Information from you on that subject, at least so far as to ascertain our mutual Expectation from each other. By the Resolutions of the House from which we have collected all our Knowledge on this subject, we conceive it clearly implied that you have taken upon yourself the Burthen of procuring the supplies demanded of this State, any Interference therefore of our Commissioners appointed under the act of Assembly would we conceive be improper, & their Continuance an unnecessary publick Expence, But as it is our earnest Wish & Intention to give you all necessary Aid we would not make any Alterations in the old system untill we are informed that you are prepared with the new. In which Purpose we request you to resolve us whether your Expectations extend to any farther Purchases by the agents, & at what Time

their services may be dispensed with. We must at the same Time inform you that our Expectations from the subscription proposed by the House as a Relief under present Difficulties has not answered our Expectations so fully as we expected either in the amount of the sum or the Time of the Collection, our Necessities for ammunition for the Frontiers, the feeding the Prisoners & discharging the Debts contracted for Flour during the session of the House. You will favour us with your answer as soon as convenient, many Letters now laying before us unanswered till we are acquainted with your Sentiments.

In the mean Time we have directed Mr. Morgan* to prepare exact Returns of the Purchases made so that you may know with Precision what Progress has been made which together with other necessary Papers adapted to the Change will be forwarded.

I am Sir,

Your-obed. & Hbble. Serv.

Indorsed,

July 3d, 1781.

ROBERT MORRIS SUP. OF FINANCE TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philada. July 4, 1781.

Sir,

I was honoured with your Excellencys favour of yesterday,† this morn'g and immediatly take an oppt'y to acknowledge it, Previously to the Resolutions of the honourable House of Assembly, I saw with concern that the Honble Council could not procure the necessary supplies with the Funds appropriated to that Service. The resolutions have not produced and indeed could not have been expected to produce any immediate alteration in the nature of those Funds. I knew therefore that I should derive no immediate ability from them but as I conceived other measures might be adopted to answer the purposes proposed my wish to releive the Government from the Pressure of its Difficulties induced my acceptance. I did this with a firm Reliance on the assistance, Support and Cooperation of your Excellency and the Council, & it gives me Sincere Pleasure to find in your Letter that this Reliance has been well founded. I have already Sir taken effectual measures to furnish some of those Supplies which may be wanted on the part of the State beyond its Limits, having procured about seven thousand Barrells of flour to be appropriated to the United States on the part of Pensylvania, and I have good Hope that with the assistance you have been pleased to assure me of, I shall succeed to every necessary Effect; Measures will be taken to lessen the Consumption within the State and to provide for such as may be indispensible.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 779.

† See page 244.

I cannot as yet Possibly determine either what Retrenchments can be made or the moment when each object I have in View can be accomplished, but I thoroughly agree with your Excellency in opinion that the continuance of the Commissaries you have appointed beyond the Period when the necessity of their Services shall cease would be an unnecessary Expence.

I shall be very happy to receive the Documents which you have been pleased to promise me and on my Part I assure your Excelly. I will take up the Business as fast as I can and will give you immediate notice from time to time of my success so that the officers you mention may be released from their Exertions.

I shall be happy at all times to be favoured with a Communication of the sentiments of Council on this and every other subject relating to the Publick Service, it will give me also great Pleasure to be able in any instance to assist their operations. The situation of our Country calls for the United Efforts of all her servants and it is only by an harmonious Cooperation of all that she can receive most perfect assistance.

I take the Liberty to observe to your Excellency that the expectations of the Publick from the measures of the Honourable House of Assembly can only be answered by the Vigorous collection of Taxes, on this I have founded my Hopes and I take the present early opportunity of declaring that the Merit of any success ought chiefly to be attributed to those who shall superintend that operation.

I have the honour to be,
most Respectfully, your Excellencys,
Very obdt. & hble. Servt.
ROBT. MORRIS
S. I. of Finances.

His Excelly. Jos. Reed Esqr., President of the State Pennsylv'a.

Col. Arch'd Lochry to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Twelve Mile Run, Westmoreland County, July 4, 1781.

May it Please your Excellency.

I was Honored with your Favour by Col. Proctor, and find my Clerk has made a mistake in sending my accompts with the public to the Auditors which should have been sent to your Excellency, which I apprehend must have occasioned some Reflections on Me. I have now sent my accounts from the 20th of March 1780, to the 20th of March 1781. I have called on Colonel Cook for a settlement

of His accounts as Sub Lieut. but He has Evaded rendering me any. Colonel Campbell is not able to settle as he has held two Courts of Appeal and is not able to collect the Fines, nor the Commissioners have not been able to make returns of the Estates of Delinquents.

Colonel James Perry Informs me He has settled His Accounts when last in Philadelphia, and Col. Hays's I Enclose with my own. The Vouchers for Hire of Express as charged in my account is Colonel Broadhead's Letters which I left in the Auditor's Office and if wanted may be had of the Clerk.

The four Month Company which your Excellency ordered me to Raise I had Compleated in three weeks after Receiving my Instructions, and Captain Stokeley's Company, is already above thirty men strong all very good Men. We have very distressing times Hese this summer. The Enemy are almost constantly in our County Killing and Captivating the Inhabitants. I see no way we can have of defending ourselves other than by offensive operations. General Clarke has Requested our assistance to Enable him to carry an Expedition into the Indian Country. And at Colonel Hays's request the Principle People of this County held a meeting when after Consultation came to a conclusion which I Enclose to your Excellency and would be Happy in having your approbation. I Flatter myself that with the Troops now raised together with what Volunteers and Drafts could be had we should have a considerable Force after our Harvest is secured.

The General's objects are the Shawneys, Delawares & Wiandotts Countrys in Order to bring them to a General Engagement and if Successful He makes no doubt of Reducing these three Nations. Please to oblige me with your Excellency's Instructions by this Express.

I have the Honour to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient

And very Humble Servant.

A^d LOCHRY, L. W. C.

N. B. If any Ballance appears due to me after deducting £2471 15s. Continental Currency which I fell behind in settlement with the Auditors, please send it by the Bearer, &c.

A^d L.

Directed,

Public Service.

His Excellency, Joseph Read, Esquire, President Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

☞ Express.

Speaker of Assembly to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a, July 4th, 1781.

Sir,

I am very sorry that your Excellency & Council have not yet received the Money necessary to answer Calls of the most important & indispensable kind, & the more so as Mr Rittenhouse has not obtained a greater sum than £686.;* but at the same Time I must beg leave to inform your Excellency that as an Individual I have done every thing in my Power to promote the good Intentions of the House. Whatever the opinion of the House may have been I am humbly of Opinion that the main Part of the Business was put into the Hands of the State Treasurer, altho' the House in general agreed that they would assist the Treasurer in procuring the Loan, & appointed the City Members together with Mr Gray, Mr Hill, Mr Hayes, Mr Wynkoop, Mr Bird, Mr Mifflin, Mr Slough Mr Duncan & M^r McClean a special Comittee for that Purpose. This being done some Days before the House broke up, it was impossible for me to attend personally to the Business, but I was informed by some members of the Comittee before the House adjourned that the Treasurer had requested some Gentlemen in the different wards of the City to go round with the Subscription Paper & that there was already about £2000 subscribed. How far that may be the Case, & what Sums may probably be obtained I am not able to judge but if I stand rightly informed the Gentlemen who have subscribed are ready to pay their respective sums whenever called upon. The Treasurer who by the Directions of the House is at the Head of the Business, & perhaps the other City Members, who have had more Time & opportunity to attend to it than myself will no Doubt be able to give your Excellency every necessary information on that Head. The State of my Health & other Circumstances oblige me to leave the City for some Time, but I make no Doubt the City Members & the other Gent^n appointed for that Purpose will use every Exertion, to promote the Subscriptions & obtain the Sums necessary.

I have the Honour to be Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient & most humble serv^t.

FRED'K A. MUHLENBERG.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq., President of the State of Pensilvania.

Indorsed,

July 4th, 1781. From Honble F^k A. Muhlenberg, Esq., Speaker of the Genl Assembly.

* See page 18.

Prisoners confined for Criminal Offences in the Gaol of Philadelphia, 1781.

Return of Prisoners Confined for Criminal offences in the Gaol of the City and County of Philadelphia.

No.	Prisoner's names.	By Whom Committed.	The Crimes.	When Comm'd.	Tryed.	At what Court.	Remarks.
1	Henry Hancock,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Burglary.	Oct. 25th, 1779.	Tryed.	Oyer & Term'r.	Acquitted; an old man of eighty years of Age; in Custody for his fees.
2	Christopher Simpson,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Felony.	Feb. 16th, 1780.	Tryed.	City Court.	A British prisoner of war; to be sent to the new gaol.
3	Willm. Williamson,	Benjn. Paschall, Esq.	Felony.	Oct. 21st, 1780.	Tryed.	City Court.	An Old man, a Good Gun Smith; to go to sea.
4	Thomas Murphy,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Felony.	June 6th, 1781.	Tryed.	City Court.	Fit for the Sea Service.
5	Henry McKeever,	John Miller, Esq.	Burglary.	Jan. 11th, 1781.	Tryed.	Oyer & Term'r.	Reprieved, & fit for the Sea Service.
6	John Miller,	John Ord, Esq.	Felony.	Feb. 1st, 1781.	Tryed.	City Court.	Fit for the Sea Service; a weekly man, both his ears cut of.
7	Miles Martin,	Benjn. Paschall, Esq.	Horse Steal'g.	Feb. 3d, 1781,	Tryed.	County Court.	Not fit for the sea service; to go to sea.
8	John Rukins,	John Miller, Esq.	Horse Steal'g.	Feb. 6th, 1781.	Tryed.	City Court.	Fit for the Sea Service.
9	John Flanaghan,	Hon. T. McKean, Esq.	Burglary.	Feb. 13th, 1781.	Tryed.	Oyer & Term'r.	Reprieved, & fit for the Sea Service.
10	Morgan O'Bryan,	John Miller, Esq.	Felony.	Feb. 19th, 1781.	Tryed.	City Court.	Fit for the Sea Service.
11	*Isaac Green,	Hon. T. McKean, Esq.	High Treason	Mar. 13th, 1781.	Pres'd	Oyer & Term'r.	An able bodyd man; to go to sea one cruize; not to live in Chester County.
12	Andrew Darous,	John Ord, Esq.	Felony.	Ap'l 20th, 1781.			An old offender, willing to go to Sea.
13	John Anderson,	Benjn Paschall, Esq.	Felony.	Ap'l 14th, 1781.	Tryed.	City Court.	Fit for the Sea Service.
14	Thos. Wilkinson,	Wm. McMullin, Esq.	Piracy.	April 23d, 1781.	Tryed.	Oyer & Term'r.	
15	Joshua Buffington,	Hon T. McKean, Esq.	High Treason	May 4th, 1781.			
16	James Cannon,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Burglary.	May 12th, 1781.			
17	James Jones,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Burglary.	May 13th, 1781.			Willing to go to the Sea Service.
18	Arthur McGarity,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Felony.	May 16th, 1781.			A lame poor Fellow.
19	George Wall,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Felony.	May 16th, 1781.			Fit for either Sea or land Service.
20	J. Smith, alias Parker,	John Miller, Esq.	Felony.	May 24th, 1781.			Willing to go into the Sea Service.
21	John Bryan,	Benjn. Paschall, Esq.	Felony.	June 8th, 1781.			Willing to go into the Sea Service.
22	John Dill,	Wm. McMullin, Esq.	Felony.	June 25th, 1781.			Willing to go into the Land Service.
23	J. Simpson, al's Blaney,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	Felony.	July 2d, 1781.			
24	(Negroe) George,	Plunket Fleeson, Esq.	An Assault & Battery.	June 12th, 1781.			Willing to go to Sea.

The above is a true Extract from the Docket of the Gaol aforesaid to the 3d of July, 1781. JOHN REYNOLDS, Gaoler.

* Pardoned—See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 778—on condition of going to sea in the frigate Trumbull.

Lt. Col. Wm. Coats to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To the Hon'ble, the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

Agreeable to the Resolve of Council of 15th June last, the Lieutenant of the County of Philadelphia begs leave to report that in Consequence of the orders contained in said Resolve, the Gentlemen Composing the Troop of Light Dragoons, belonging to said County, was duly Noticed to hold themselves in readiness to March at a short Notice, and Agreeable to Notice given the Troop, Assembled together at Flower Town, in said County, on Monday, the 25th of June, when the Lieutenant had the Satisfaction to find the Troop in General well mounted and Equipt.

I have the Honor to remain the Councils

Most Obedt Humble servt.,

Wm COATS, Lieut. C. P.

Philada., July 5, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, S. of F. &c., 1781.

Sir,

We duly received your Favour of the 4th Inst., & are happy to find your Prospects of Supplies so encouraging. Since that time we have received a Letter from the Q Master Genl on the Subject of transportation of Provisions, which we apprehend will naturally fall within your System. But at the same time we find ourselves much embarassed to answer the several Letters & Requisitions now before us. Upon an attentive Perusal of the Resolves of the House, & your Letter following them, it appears to us that the Council were immediately exonerated from the Duty before imposed on them, of furnishing the Supplies. This was indeed the natural Consequences of putting all the Money in the Treasury under one Disposition. We are fully sensible that an instant Transfer of the Business was impracticable, but it is equally so for us to continue it without even Paper Money. We have, therefore, directed Col. Morgan to make up as soon as possible, a complete return of the Supplies furnished under the Requisition of Nov. 4, & all other Documents by which you may be enabled to determine the present State of the Business. We have also desired him to write to the several Commissioners in the Counties to render returns to the 20 Inst., by which Time we trust their further Services may be dispensed with. We cannot doubt this arrangement will be agreeable to you, as it will prevent improper

Interferences, & will relieve us from our present awkward Situation, in which we are responsible for the Requisition, without either Means or proper Authority to comply with it. We have taken every Measure in our Power to forward the Collection of Taxes, being fully sensible, with you, of its Importance & Necessity.

I am Sir,

With much Consideration & Esteem,

Your Obed., H'ble Servt.,

Robt. Morris, Esq., Superintend^t of Finances of the United States.

Indorsed, July 6, '81.

CIRCULAR—ROBERT MORRIS, S. I. OF FINANCE, 1781.

(Circular Letter.)

Philadelphia, July 6th, 1781.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of enclosing Copy of an Act of Congress, 28th June, 1781, from which your Excellency will perceive that I am directed to press a Compliance with the several requisitions of Congress upon your State. Immediaiely upon the receipt of this Resolution I wrote to the Treasury Board, The Commy General and Quarter Master General for Returns, by which to determine the several Balances Due. Whenever I shall have received them I will do myself the honour of addressing your Excellency again on the subject, and am to pray that in the Interim measures may be taken within your State to comply with these several requisitions as far as they may hitherto have been uncomplied with. The object of my present Letter is to give you early notice of that Resolution, and further to inform you that as the Balance of these Requisitions is the only Fund from which the Expenditures of the Campaign are to be draw, I must Urge the most Speedy and punctual compliance on the part of the several States. Your Excellency's Good Sense will render it unnecessary for me to dwell on this Subject, and your regard for the Publick Interest will, I am Confident, interest you most deeply in the facilitating a Compliance with this essential demand.

With the greatest Respect,

I have the Honour to be,

Your Excellency's Most Ob^t H. Servt.,

ROB^t MORRIS, S. I. of Finance.*

His Excellency, the President of the Supreme E. Council, of Pensylvania.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 784.

Circular of Congress, 1781.

By the United States, in Congress assembled,

June 28th, 1781.

Ordered,

That the Superintendant of Finance be furnished with an account of the several Requisitions of Money & Supplies from the States, And that he take measure for calling upon them, and pressing a Compliance with the said requisition.

That he Order such Sums of Money into the hands of the Quarter Master General and the Commissary of Military Stores, as upon Consultation, as aforesaid, may be necessary for executing the duties required of them Respectively.

Extract from the Minutes.

Copy.

CHA^s THOMSON, Sec'y.

H. Osborne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

Agreeable to the order of Council of the 3d inst., I proceeded to Hog Island on the 4th, and Delivered possession of the lands in your Order mentioned, to Mr. Samuel Caldwell, in the presence of Mr. John Dunlap and Mr. John Caldwell.

I have the Honour to be,

Your Excy^s most obt,

and Very H'ble Servt.,

H. OSBORNE.

Philadelphia, July 6th, 1781.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July 6th, 1781.

Sir,

I have after encountering almost every Difficulty (generally attending militia,) conceivable, only this Day compleated the several Guards, ordered by the Honble Council as to number—arms for the whole I have not, nor do I know where to get them, searches thro' County for the purpose of collecting them have been made but with little success. My apprehentions with respect to the Country militia were I find too justly grounded.

To furnish 180 men which are barely a sufficient Guard considering our situation & great charge at this place, and 120 men for the purpose of conducting the Convention Troops & sailors to York & Philad^a, I have been obliged to begin with the 2nd Class of the 4th Batallion who come next in course of duty and go on in the numerical order to the 8^d Class in the 8th Batallion the whole of which scarcely amount to the number required, some Batallions furnish but from six to twelve men. Excepting Lancaster & Lebanon Batallions none exceed 25 men. However I have not been disappointed in my expectations, the season of the year pleads strongly in their favour, shall therefore think nothing of our extraordinary trouble which I assure you is almost beyond conception. I have ordered the Sub-Lieutenants to proceed immediately to the Collecting of the fines and no pains or trouble shall be wanting on my part to expedite this necessary business.

Some Difficulties with respect to the pay of the officers in actual service have arisen & The Law says "that all Comiss'd officers shall over and above the pay establish'd from time to time by the Hon'ble Congress, receive the same Bounty which a private shall receive," the late regulations in hard money creates the difficulty. Your Excellency & the Hon'ble Council will be so obliging as to let me know the daily pay of the officers & privates after compleating their tour of Duty.

Another difficulty with respect to the Trial & punishing of officers & Privates by Courts-martial has been started by the officers, The Law says in Sect. 37, "that the militia whilst in actual service of the United states shall be subject to the same rules and regulations of the Federal Army.

In Sect. 60th & Article 9th no Penalty shall be inflicted at the discretion of a Court-martial other than degrading, fining or Cashiring.

I have given my oppinion which is that the militia when in the service of the United States ought agreeable to Law so far as relates to punishment be subject to the rules & Articles of war of the Foederal Army, that the latter article only would hold good were militia misbehav'd &c., on Exercise & field Days and when they are not in the Actual service of the United States.

Your Excellency's oppinion in these several matters will be highly necessary. I would also wish to know weather the Constitution of a Court-martial by me as Lieutenant of the County is legal and if so wheather in the absence of the Commander-in-chief or Brigadier I can approove or Disapproove of their proceedings.

Inclosed I transmit agreeable to the order of the Hon'ble Council a return of the state of the militia Cavalry of the County of Lancaster a very considerable volunteer Corps of Cavalry might be rais'd, provided they could be furnish'd with the necessary articles and be exempt from the Classes in which they are respectively inrolled, I should be glad Council would give me some information on this head

On the 9th instant I set out for Cox's town (the place of rendevouze appointed,) for the purpose of mustering & embodying the Detachment of 50 men, ordered for Northumberland the 9th & 10th Batallions (from Hanover and Paxton,) who come next in course of Duty furnish those men. I dread the meeting of those people as I have neither Arms, Accoutrements nor Knapsacks to put in their hands.

I am informed Major Wirtz has resigned his office as Town Major that it was said no other appointment was necessary and that I resided in the Town and therefore might transact the business, I am ever ready to do every thing in my power to serve the public and particularly any thing that is recommended by your Excellency & the Honl. Council, at the same time I am perfectly convinc'd Council would not wish to load me with a disproportion of Public business were it can be avoided. I beg leave to inform Council that the situation of this town is such as absolutely to demand the closest attention and if they wished I should take it upon me (at present for the want of such a person I am obliged to act untill I can hear from,) I should expect some recompense for my trouble; I hope your Excellency and the Hon'ble Council will take this matter into consideration and give some order thereupon.

It may perhaps be a matter that does not so immediately come before Council but that the Board of War should have the Direction of it, if so I think it highly necessary that they should make some appointment as unless I have a proper appointment shall decline acting.

I have the Honor to be with every respect and esteem your Excy most obt hum. Servt,

ADm HUBLEY, Lt Lr Cy.

Col. Lewis Nicola to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To His Excellency the President & Hon'le Executive Council.

Gentlemen,

Expecting to depart very shortly from this city I request your acceptance of my respectful thanks for the many favours conferred on me & until it is ascertained whether I can in a reasonable time return to my duties under the State your permission to appoint Capt McConnel of the Invalid regt to act as Town Major.

Capt Cooper whose residence in the barracks enables him to fulfill the duties better than Cap. McConnel to be Inspector of the barracks.

These Gentlemen will have the use of my office & a clerk versed in the business.*

In consequence of an order from you I have supplied scantling out of the barracks store to the Board of war an account of which is annexed with Mr Thomas Nevills evaluation.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 780.

There is some forfeited prise money yet not accounted for, I have put it into the hands of the Attorney general & furnished him with all the information in my power.

His Excellency Thomas Wharton Pres^t & the Council favoured me with the use of some military books belonging to the State which I now return, also a chart of the river near Mud Island.*

I have settled all my recruiting accounts with the Auditors of the State except for one thousand pounds rec^d from Mr Rittenhouse for recruiting on the new plan £9 15 0 received from two Invalids of the Pensylvania line for their discharges & £38 7 6 rec^d for forfeited prise money, these sums I shall account for with auditors as soon as I receive a receipt for the enlistments now given in.

Permit me to assure you that I am with respect

Gentlemen your most obed^t Servt,

LEWIS NICOLA. Col. Inv.

Barracks, 6th July, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Gen. Washington, 1781.

Philad., July 1781.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your Excell^ys Favours of the & , the former would not have remained so long unanswered but that we waited to have the full Result of the Proceedings of the Assembly so as to give the most satisfactory Acc^t of our Prospects & Expectations. We have now to acquaint your Excell'y that agreeable to the inclosed Resolutions Robt Morris, Esqr, has taken upon him the Procurement of the Supplies of this State, the Money appropriated for this Purpose having been put under his entire Direction & Management. An Arrangement which is very acceptable to us as promising more Certainty & Oeconomy, & relieving us from a Duty which could not be performed without being better provided with the Means of Purchase than we have been for many Months past. We have directed our Purchasers to close their Returns on the 20th Inst., by which Time we expect their Services will be unnecessary & their Interference improper, as Mr. Morris will have the entire Direction & Responsibility. So far as our Assistance & Cooperation may be necessary we shall cheerfully give it, having no Object more at Heart than the Establishment of a permanent System which shall ensure constant & regular Supplies.

Soon after we received your Excelly's Favour of the , Lt. Col. Forrest sent us a Return of the Officers of the Artill^y Regim^t, signed by him as Commander of the Regim^t, late Proctor's, by which it

* Not found. What chart was it?

appeared there was a Vacancy of the Majority of the Regiment & a Note at Bottom that Major Eustis & Captain Simmonds having been irregularly introduced, they were not considered as Officers of that Regim^t. On the same Day Capt. Porter made an Application for the Appointm^t of Major. As these Measures supposed the Resolve of Congress of the 25th May to be retrospective & to differ very materially from the Sense of your Excell'ys Letter of the , we thought proper to remit the Return & to decline Capt. Porter's Application untill it should receive your Excell'ys Approbation. Col. Carrington, we believe, is in Virginia—we have not heard from him since his Accession to this Command.

We are obliged to your Excell'y for the Information respecting Mr. Bigham, who has refused to give us any Account of the Money, & the whole will now probably be lost. We are at a Loss to know upon what Principle an Application for Restoration of his Rank could be founded, but are clearly of Opinion your Excell'ys Determination thereupon was most favourable to the publick Interests, which we apprehend will be effectually served by a Punctuality & Fidelity in pecuniary Transactions. We should be farther obliged to your Excell'y to direct a Copy of the Proceedings of this Court Martial to be forwarded by the proper Officer, it being necessary to account for the Deficiency occasioned by this Embezzlement.

We are anxious to comply with your Excell'ys Request as to the Rifle Corps—Gen. St. Clair, with the Assistance of Major Parr, has pointed out a Number of retiring Officers to be employed. It seems granted on all Hands that a Bounty in hard Money & some Advance will be necessary—unfortunately our Treasury possesses no Coin of this Kind, & from the late Tryal of the Assembly to get a Loan, £20,000 of which they only got £2500, & of which but half is yet paid, we doubt our Ability to complete the Business. However we have made the Attempt by Way of Subscription, founded on a strong Representation of the Importance of the Service & will do every Thing in our Power to complete the Business.

Indorsed,

July 7, 1781.

Petition from York for Clerk of Market, 1781.

Gentlemen:

So long ago as the 18th Day of October, 1775, [?] there was a Charter granted by a late Governor to hold markets in this Town of York.

There have been several Clerks appointed formerly, but we are now without any.

Upon a View of affairs at this Time, we think it will conduce much to the Interest of the Inhabitants of this Place, to have a Person appointed to fill the office of Clerk of the Market of York Town, and beg Leave to recommend Mr. John Ehrman for that Purpose.

We are, gentlemen,
with great Respect,
your most obed^t humble Servts.,

Wm SCOTT,
JAMES SMITH,
Wm BAILEY,
H^y MILLER,
ARCH^d M^cCLEAN,
JACOB ROTTNOCK,
THOS. HARTLEY.

York, July the 7th, 1781.

Directed,

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq., President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Robert Levers to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Easton, July 8th, 1781.

Sir.

Yesterday, at an appeal held at Jonas Hartzell's, Esqr, I had the Honor to receive from your Excellency in Council, dated the 28th June last, Instructions relative to the Collection of the Old Fines, and to the expedition necessary to be used in the Collection of Fines on the future calling of the Militia, to which I have already paid a particular attention.

A Letter I have received from Col. David Deshler, Com^r of Purchases yesterday, a Copy of which is enclosed, has filled me with apprehensions respecting a Want of Provisions for the Militia, that I think it my duty to loose no time in communicating the Contents to your Excellency and the Supreme Executive Council.

Jacob Brinker, whose daughter was the Wife of George Lerne, Two of the late unhappy Victims slain by the Indians, was with me last Evening, with young John Lerne, who killed and scalped an Indian soon after his Father was shot, desiring a small Party of men might be posted at the place of his late Father deceased, for the Protection of his Crop and of his mother & younger Brethren—Upon what occasion I know not, but Lerne tells me, that a few men were posted at one Jacob Lawis [?] about a mile & a half within Lernes'. Here a Regard to Truth, and a Commisseration of this unhappy Family, constrain me to reveal to Council what has long lain on my mind with deep Concern; it is in the Line of my duty now; before, I apprehended if I interfered some Persons in the

County might have given an ungenerous Construction to my good design. These Families, there is too much reason to fear, have unhappily fell a Sacrifice to malicious Resentment;—Frequent application had been made to Col. Strowd for a Guard, by the late unhappy John Lerne, whose Place is so situated that it is certainly a proper Post, and he was as often refused; and, as the deceased some time past told me himself, because Col. Strowd asserted he was a Tory, and he only wanted men there to have them destroyed, and on which Account John Lerne, in his Life Time, brought an action of Slander against Col. Strowd. On the 30th June, when Col. Chambers was with me, he produced to me a Paper directed to him, & delivered as he said, by one Mr Denis [?] to him; the Paper contains a Number of Charges against Col. Strowd, and I have taken the Liberty to enclose a Copy; and I was desired to put Col. Strowd under Arrest. It occasioned me much Uneasiness of mind, and I declined the matter, telling Col. Chambers I was young in office, the Military duty never having engaged much of my Thoughts; and that as it was well known I had an unfavorable Opinion of Col. Strowd, which however well grounded, my Interference at such a time might rather be injurious, and frustrate my design, which was rather to cement different Parties, than divide; nevertheless, I would take a Copy of them, and if upon strict Enquiry, I should find the Charges well grounded, I would transmit them to your Excellency and sollicit advice and Instructions from you on matters of that Nature. What has since happened, has made me conceive it to be my duty to represent the Whole to Council without Reserve.

From the Account I have received from young John Lerne, the Indian attack was thus:—his Brother George was mowing Grass in a meadow where he was attacked; upon endeavoring to make to the House, his Retreat was cut off and he killed & scalped. The old man with his Son John were in a Rye Field, and attacked by Two Indians, who both fired; John Lerne the Elder having first fired, but missed, he was shot and began to run; his Son escaped, and whilst he was watching the Fate of his Father, the Two Indians running after him to scalp him, Young Lerne saw another in the Rye, with his Head down as if he was doing something to his Rifle, upon which Lerne immediately fired & shot him through the Head, but dared not venture to scalp him at that time. He thinks he could have shot another of the Indians after he had loaded, but his Weakness of Body being such that he could not make his Escape if he should have missed, he judged, as his Father & Brother were killed, it was best to secure himself. He says had there been Four or Five Persons then present, beside the Family, all the Indians must inevitably have fallen into their Hands—From every Circumstance it appears there were but Four. The Indian he killed was of those who formerly lived at Chemung, named Edsky, but about Five years ago gave himself the name of Jacob Strowd. His Brother George's Wife and Child were taken & carried off by the Indians, with some

Plunder, the House, &c^e, not destroyed—and after the Prisoners were taken some distance were both killed. That upon Col. Strowd's coming up with a Party, the Indians were pursued to the Edge of the Great Swamp; and upon one of the Party's going into the Swamp & whistling in the Indian Fashion, he was answered by the Indians, and by the Sound at a very small distance, it is imagined the Indians supposed it to be their Comrade that Lerne had killed —But it is said the Party Col. Stroud had the Command of, had taken out a Ten Gallon Keg of Whiskey, and some of them had become so intoxicated with Liquor, and began to whistle, hoop & halloo, that they might have been heard a mile, by which unhappy Accident the Indians were alarmed, when they had collected wood to make a Fire, and went off in a great Fright, leaving their Plunder, besides other matters of their own, behind them. It is generally conjectured old John Lerne wounded one of the Indians, and that he died somewhere of his Wounds; because Two Indian Tracks were only seen on their Retreat.—Young Lerne tells me a strange Circumstance of Col. Strowd's Conduct, which I have heard from others, and is difficult to be accounted for—That after having marched some distance with his Party on the Pursuit along the Indian Track, and had passed the Place where the Woman & Child had been killed, he lost his Party, and was afterwards found on the Road leading from his House to Wyoming, (about Four miles, supposed to be across from the Indian Track pursued,) by a Party that had come out to strengthen him, and had reached Lernes' after he and his Party had marched about two Hours; with which latter Party he returned & proceeded to the Great Swamp. The Two Companies is said to have been about Fifty men. I cannot say how far this Report is to be depended on, as I have heard nothing from Col. Chambers; but it appears of too serious a nature not to mention it to Council. I have the Honor to be, Sir,

your Excellency's

most obedient Servant,

ROBERT LEVERS.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council.

—

Extract of a Letter from Col. Jacob Strowd, dated at Fort Penn, July the 4th, 1781.

Sir,

I arrived home last Evening from the Scout after the Indians. John Lerne and George Lerne & his Wife & child are killed & scalped, and John Lerne, Junr, has shot & killed an Indian. On Tuesday about Eleven o'clock, I received the alarm, and I collected as many men as I could in haste, and got Lernes and started from

thence about three o'clock, and followed their Track till dark night, and found that they had entered into the Great Swamp; and it being dark, we could not follow the Track, and so we marched to a small distance from the Swamp, and there lay till morning, and started after them again on the Tracks as soon as it was light; and we found the Place where they had stopped that night, about two or three hundred yards in the Swamp, among the Laurel & Thicket and it seems they discovered us after them, and they started from thence, and left two Horses they had taken from George Lerne, and one scalp which they had taken off John Lerne, & sundry Plunder they had taken from them; and of their own, one Blanket, Four matchcoats, one Hoppice, one Fur cap, and sundry other articles. But they getting in the Swamp & leaving the Horses, we could not make out to follow their Tracks, as they scattered & turned so much among the Laurel and Logs and Thickets, that we were obliged to quit the Pursuit.

a true Copy. ROBERT LEVERS.

DELEGATES OF VIRGA. IN CONGRESS TO PRES. REED, 1781

The underwriten the Delegates attending in Congress from the Commonwealth of Virginia beg leave to communicate to the supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the Information they have received from George Nicolson an agent from the State of Virginia now in this City.

"That an attachment granted by a magistrate of the city of Philadelphia hath been levied on fifteen Bales of merchandise imported in the ship Franklin, the property of the State of Virginia and in the possession of messr. Butler & Mifflin, who have been summoned to appear and answer as Garnishees, a Copy of the attachment and Sheriffs Return of the Execution thereof is hereunto annexed. That these Goods are for Cloathing the Troops of the State in the Continental army and were shipped on Board the Franklin by Mr. P. Penet merchant in France, and addressed to the care of Mr. Robert Morris for the use of the commonwealth of Virginia, as by the Bill of Loading and Invoice ready to be produced if required may appear."

The underwritten think it necessary to communicate this Transaction to the Supreme Executive Council for their Information; and take the Liberty of observing that they conceive the Goods in Question, the property of the State of Virginia cannot be arrested or detained by process issuing from any of the Courts or magistrates of Pennsylvania or any other State in the Union, such proceeding necessarily involving one of two Consequences, either that the state, whose property is thus arrested, suffer the Inconvenience of an exparte adjudication ever dangerous to the Rights of Property, or abandon its Sovereignty by descending to answer before the Tri-

bunal of another Power—Alternatively, which it is equally the Interest of the State of Pennsylvania as of Virginia, to avoid.

The Courts of Law in the Commonwealth of Virginia being open, as well to the Citizens of other States as to her own, the said Simon Nathan, as well as any other individual might have applied there for Justice and obtained it, If his Demand, although just were of such a nature as to be out of the reach of the Courts of Law, still the case would not be without Remedy; as on Petition to the Legislature, the Supreme authority of the State, it would no doubt be attended to and redressed.

Besides the Consequences above stated, it will occur to the Supreme Executive Council, that great Evils may ensue to the particular State, and to the Union in general, If Indivduals Claims be allowed to arrest the military supplies of one State imported into or passing through another in Time of War, and to withold them from her untill released by the usual Course of Law.

The underwritten therefor cannot but consider this proceeding as unwarrantable; derogatory to the Rights of Sovereignty of the State of Virginia, and requiring the immediate Interference of the authority of the State of Pennsylvania to put a stop thereto, and for restoring the Goods to the Condition they were in when the attachments was levied.

JOS. JONES,
JAMES MADISON Junr.
THEO. BLAND,
M. SMITH.

Indorsed,—July 12, 1781.

Philadelphia County ss.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania To the Sheriff of the County of Philadelphia Greeting. We command you that you attach the Commonwealth of Virginia by all & singular their Goods and Chattles, Rights and Credits whatsoever or in whose hands soever the same may be found in your Bailwick, so that the said Commonwealth be and appear before our Justices of Philadelphia at our Court of Common Pleas, there to be held the fifth Day of September next to answer Simon Nathan in a Plea of Trespass on the Case &c.

And have you then there this writ. Witness Plunkett Fleeson Esquire at Philadelphia, the ninth day June 1781.

(Copy.) J. B. SMITH.

Wilson & Sergeant 51.	Simon Nathan v. The Commonwealth of Virginia.	Term, atta. Case.

Attached fifteen Bales Goods marked S. V. No 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27, 32, in the Hands of Messrs. Jonathan Mifflin and Sol. Butler and all other Goods &c., in their Hands and summoned them as Garnishees &c., &c., to answer.

(Copy.) Wm. WILL, Shff.*

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 2. The claim was abandoned. See also pp. 256. 267, 271, of this Vol.

Pres. Reed to Col. Wood, 1781.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 30th ult.* came duly to Hand, from the information of Col. Miles as well as others we are inclined to think the Prisoners may be accomodated within the Picquets at Lancaster, at least for the present & if so there will be a great Saving of Expence & Trouble as one Guard will then serve for all the Prisoners. Besides they will be under the immediate Inspection of the Commissary of Prisoners. It has also been suggested to us that the Guard at Lancaster is unnecessarily large, we could wish at this busy Season of the Year to give some Indulgence & if possible that a Part of the Guard may be dispensed with: it is supposed 150 Men would be quite sufficient but we would not make any Alteration without first advising with you & we desire you to consider of it & give us your Opinion.

We have given such Directions at Reading as we hope will accomodate the Troops there & make the Duty of the superintending Officer very easy. In all Cases we have directed the Lieutenants of the County to consult with you or the officer acting under you & make no Doubt that in every Thing respecting the Resources they will pay the utmost Regard to your Advice.

Robert Morris, Esq., having taken upon him the Procurement of Provisions we make no Doubt your future Supplies will be regular & sufficient. We shall on all Occasions be glad to make your Duty as easy & pleasant as possible, & am

Sir, Your Obed. Hble ser.

J. R.

Directed,

Col. James Wood, at Lancaster.

Indorsed,

July 9th, 1781. To Colonel Wood at Lancaster.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

We were favored this morning with yours of yesterday & inclose Col. Pickerings Letter which seems to refer intirely to the Transportation of Provisions. We also enclose you a Copy of the Minutes of Council containing Gen. Washington's Appointment of Places of Deposit the original Letter having gone into the Assembly is now mixed with their Papers & not procurable at present. You will observe some Posts mentioned there not included in the Enumeration of the Board of War, to which we must also add the Yellow Springs in Chester County where an Hospital of Incurables is established which

* See page 236.

seems likely to be permanent. We apprehend Easton to have been mentioned as a Place of considerable Deposit from its apparent Contiguity to the Camp but from the Difficulty & Expense of Land Carriage, the Incursions of the Indians & the overstrained Exertions of that County to support Gen. Sullivans Expedition in 1779 we have never been able to collect any considerable Quantity of Flour at that Place & have ever found it attended with greater Expense than the Purchases here, which were forwarded by way of Trenton. Agreeable to your Request we have forwarded the Names of the several County Commissioners on the back of the inclosed Minutes of Council to which you will please to be referred. We have given Col. Morgan the most positive Instruction to make out a Return from the Papers in the Office & afterwards to complete it to the 21st Inst. together with such other Documents as will afford you the fullest Information on the Subject.

And am Sir,

Your Obed. Hble Ser.

JOS. REED.

Directed,

Robert Morris, Esq. Superintendt of Finances.

Indorsed,

July 9th, 1781. To Robt Morris, Esqr Supert of Finances.

Wm. Parr, &c., to D. Kennedy & F. Johnston, 1781.

Gentlemen,

We take the liberty to lay the following state of facts before you, relative to our claims exhibited to your honourable board on Saturday last, viz.

On the 8th day of Febr 1775, we made application to the land office for sundry tracts of Land in the County of Westmoreland adjoining to Lands which we had previously obtained warrants for and paid the purchase money, which applications were received and regularly filed in the Secretaries office as appears by an indorsement on the original in the hand writing of the then officer dated as above, that we performed on our part every duty that the customary terms of the officer required to secure the pre-emption of the said Lands and have the opinion in writing under the hand of the late Secretary of the Land office that we are justly intitled thereto, and the said Lands have been confirmed to us by two acts of Assembly. But on our application to your Officer we are surprized to find that an explanation has been made of the word location, which if applied to our case will inflict a penalty upon us, for the omission of the late officers and not for any deficiency, on our parts, which omission might have been occasioned by the unsettled state of our public affairs; whereby we shall be subjected to a great loss as the discovery and locating of the

said Lands was attended with a great expence in confidence that we should derive the same advantages therefrom which was customary, unless through your assistance we can have the case explained so as to obtain a special order from his Excellency the President and Supreme Executive Council to warrant the same upon paying the purchase money & fees of office, which we are informed they are authorized by Law to do.

Your attention to the premises and friendly interposition in our behalf will greatly oblige,

Gentlemen, Your Obedient humb^e Serv.

WILL. PARR,
OWEN BIDDLE,
Owen Biddle for Clement Biddle.

Directed,
To David Kennedy & Francis Johnston, Esquires.
Present.

Indorsed,
July 9th, 1781. From Wm Parr, Owen Biddle & O^n to officers of the Land office.

Robt. Morris to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Office of Finance,
Philadelphia, July 9th, 1781.

Sir,

The Letter from Council of the 6th inst.,* signed by the Hon'ble, the Vice President, has just been delivered to me, by which I learn their determination to wind up the business of Supplies to the 20th of this Month, so far as it has been under the direction of their Commissaries or Agents, and as I am entirely disposed to relieve them from every difficulty in my Power, I will exert myself to take up the Business by that time. Upon Application to the Board of War they inform me that the only Posts necessary to be supplied in this State are Philadelphia, Lancaster, Reading, York and Fort Pitt, they have Ordered the Artificers from Carlisle, and do not recollect any other place where Rations or Forage ought to be delivered for the service of the United States. If the Hon'ble Council know of any others and will mention them, I will confer with the Board of War thereon, and I shall also be thankfull if the Secretary will furnish me with the names of the Present Commissaries at Reading, Lancaster, York & F. Pitt, also at any other Posts that Council may recollect, besides those above mentioned. I shall be glad to receive all the Accounts as well of what Supplies have been delivered, in Compliance with the requisitions of Congress as of what remain on hand, and where deposited, that the same may be applied.

* See Page 250.

Mention is made of a Letter from the Quarter Master Genl. respecting the Transportation of *Provisions*, but I should suppose there is some mistake, having reason to think it is the Transportation of Military Stores that is meant, as I am informed that similar applications have been made to the Eastern States, New York & New Jersey, respecting Military Stores within those Governments, which they have, (as is said) accorded to. Whatever relates to Provisions is certainly within the Trust I have accepted from the Assembly, and if any thing more is within the reach of my Efforts to aid your Excell'y & Council in the Exertions for the Public Service, I am most chearfully ready to make them. It gives me much pleasure to find that the Collection of Taxes will be duly enforced, as that will give Energy both to your Exertions & mine.

I have the honour to subscribe myself

Your Excellency's & the Hon'ble

Council's most obedient servant,

ROB^T MORRIS, S. I. of Finance.

His Excellency, the President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pensylvania.

JOHN FREDERICK REICHEL TO COUNCIL, 1781.

To His Excellency, the President in Council.

The Petition of John Frederick Reichel, Missionary of the United Brethren Church, now sojourning at Bethlehem, in the Forks of Delaware.

Most respectfully sheweth, That about Two Years ago Your Petitioner, with a few Colonists, for Pennsylvania and North Carolina came over to this Country. He, himself, for the purpose of visiting the several Brethren Congregations on the American Continent, which done to return to the place of his Residence in Saxony. That by Your Excellencies Passport, then obtained, he was enabled to perform his Tour through Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and North Carolina, and as the Term fixed for his Return to Germany draws near, he wishes to finish the Plan of his Mission by visiting the Brethren Congregation at Staten Island and in New York and from thence to proceed to Europe.

And your Petitioner humbly prayeth your Excellency to grant him your Letters Passport, That in the beginning of the Month of August, he, with his Wife, the Son of Mr. Sweinitz, of Bethlehem, a Child of about Ten years old, and a Servant Man, may travel from Bethlehem to New York. And your Petitioner, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN FRED'K REICHEL.*

Indorsed,

Bethlehem, July 9th, 1781.

* "Read in Council and granted." See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 782.

BRADFORD & HALL TO ——————?

Philadelphia, July 10, 1781.

Sir,

We have the Honor to inform your Excellency that the Author of the Piece signed Detector, in our Paper of Saturday last, is Francis Wade, of this City, who is at present in the Country, but will return to-morrow; when your Excellency's Wishes shall be communicated to him, by

Your most obedient, Humble Servants,
BRADFORD & HALL.

PRES. REED TO VIRGINIA DELEGATES IN CONGRESS, 1781.

Gent.,

I have the Honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Memorial on the Detention of the Property of the State of Virginia, and beg Leave to assure you of our entire Disapprobation of the Measure & Concern at so disagreeable an Incident. As the Case is of the first Impression, & the Procedure thereupon may tend to establish a Precedent of great Importance, we have thought it proper to advise with the Law Officer of the State, & shall communicate as soon as possible the Result. In the mean Time I am,

very respectfully, Gen.,
Your Obed. Hble Ser.,
J. R.*

Directed,
The Hon. the Delegates of Virginia.
Indorsed,
1781, July 10.

PRES. REED TO WM. BRADFORD JR., ATT. GEN., 1781.

Sir,

The inclosed Memorial† is upon a Point of much Importance to the Interests & Dignity of the State as connected with the other States in Union. The Council, therefore, request you would wait on the Chief Justice & Mr. Bryan, & after Conference with them, favour us with the opinion of the whole—whether any, and what Relief can be given consistent with the Laws & Constitution of the State. Your speedy Compliance is much desired, as the Property remains in a State of disagreeable Suspence.

I am, &c.

The Att'y Gen.
Indorsed, July 10, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 2.
† See pp. 260, 267.

CHARLES THOMSON, SEC'Y OF CONGRESS, TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Secretary's Office, July 10th, 1781.

Sir,

I have to inform you that the Hon'ble Samuel Huntington having informed the United States in Congress assembled, that the State of his Health would not permit him to continue longer in the exercise of the duties of President, and requested leave of absence. Congress have this day proceeded to the Choice of a President, and have elected the Hon'ble Thomas McKean.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
CHA. THOMSON.*

Directed,

(On public service.)

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq., President of the State of Pennsylvania.

COL. STEPHEN MOYLAN TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lancaster, 10th July, 1781.

Sir,

The Detachment from the 4th Regt which will leave this to morrow takes off all the Subaltern officers except two. Recruits are daily coming in, and in a short time, as the Last act for recruiting the Line comes to operate, many more may be expected; it will therefore be absolutely necessary that more Subalterns shou'd be appointed to that Regiment.

I had the honor to transmit to your Excellency, last December, a List of names, out of whom I wish you & the Honourable Board would select at Least four, to be Lieutenants in the Regiment of Pensilvania Dragoons. Lt. Colonel Temple will forward this to you, &, as I am going to the Southward, you will please to communicate with him on this or any other matter respecting that Regiment.

I have the honor
to be Sir,
Your Obedt & Very H. S.
STEPHEN MOYLAN, Col. L. D.

Directed,

Public service.

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esq., The President of Pensilvania.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 783.

Pres. Reed to Col. Robert Levers, 1781.

Sir,

Your several Favours of the July 6th & 8th,* with the Inclosures, have been duly received & communicated to the Council. We are fully of Opinion that much real Service may be done for a County where the Lieutenant will steadily & firmly pursue the Law, not yielding either to the Clamour of the disaffected, or the foolish Discontents of those of a different Character, & we trust you will steadily pursue this Line, from which our Experience enables us to say you will derive more eventual Satisfaction yourself, & become more truly useful.

We are sorry to hear of the late Irruption of the Savages, & the more so as it is highly probable from your State of the Matter that had the Militia been properly posted the Lives of those poor Victims might either have been saved or fully revenged. Your Knowledge of the Country will enable you to make suitable Dispositions in future, which we request you to do so as to afford the most complete & general Protection, & this without any Regard to the Murmurs of Individuals who are actually led to seek their own Safety, however distinguished from the more general Interest.

With Respect to Col. Stroud it is the Opinion of the Council that a Court Martial should be held to determine upon his Conduct as stated in the several Charges; to this End you have my Direction, as Commander in Chief of the Militia, inclosed, in which the Articles are enumerated, those Points which are not of a military Nature being omitted.

With Respect to Provisions for the Militia, we are very sorry that it is not in our Power to give you the necessary Aid for Want of hard Money in the Treasury.—By referring to our Message to the House of the 20th Inst., you will see how apprehensive we were of this Difficulty, & therefore most earnestly entreated the Assembly before they were to provide us with some present Means of carrying on publick Business. They accordingly passed a Vote of Credit for £20,000, but we have not been able to get more than £2,000, of which their own Engagements during the Sitting of the House absorbed half, & the support of the Prisoners the Remainder, so that we are left in the most unprovided State that can be imagined. After much Deliberation we can only conclude upon the following Expedient, viz., as the County Commissioners of Purchases are to cease on the 20th Inst., at which time Mr. R. Morris takes on himself the Charge of the Continental Supplies, we would recommend that in Conjunction with Mr. Vancampen you appoint some suitable careful Person as a Commissary for providing the Militia—that he endeavour to procure on reasonable Prices in hard Money what is immediately necessary on Credit, & we do assure you that as soon as Money comes in from the late Tax Law, which must be soon, we will

* See page 257.

immediately repay it. If this cannot be done, we must refer you to a Sum of £3,000 in Paper Money sent Mr. Vancampen some Time ago, which may be applied to this Purpose. Our Abilities extend no farther, and as the Supply is for the immediate Defence of the County, we hope Measures may be fallen upon to give the desired Assistance. As Mr. Deshler seems unwilling to engage farther, & his Accounts are to be closed & settled, it may be best to appoint some Person near the Seat of the Troops, or at least more convenient than Mr. Deshler. Your Express waiting, I have only to add that

I am Sir,
with much Esteem,
Your Obed. Hble. Ser.

Indorsed
July 10, 1781.

PRES. REED TO COL. ADAM HUBLEY LIEUT. OF LANCASTER COUNTY, 1781.

Col. Adam Hubley, Lieut. of Lancaster County,

Sir,

I received your Favour of the Inst. You do me Justice in believing I shall allways be glad to serve you in every Thing in my Power—in the present Case of the Riffle men, your Appointment would have been very pleasing to me & I believe to the Council generally, but we were in a great measure precluded by the Nature of the Application in which Gen. Washington arranged the Companies & at the same time mentioned a Major Parr as the Person he expected would command the Corps. He was accordingly sent for as soon as the Letter arrived &, if money can be procured to recruit it is now so far advanced in his Hands that it would be not only improper with Respect to Gen. Washington but impracticable on other Accounts to make any alterations.

Col. Miles & other Gent. from Lancaster seem to be of opinion that the Barracks of Lancaster would very well hold all the Prisoners by which Means much Expense of different Guards &c., might be saved. We wrote a few Lines to Col. Wood thereupon which we requested him to shew you, as the Messenger could not wait for this Letter. Should you & he be of opinion that it was practicable & proper I should be glad you would write immediately to Mr Scott of York Town that he may govern himself accordingly. Intending to send all the British Convention Prisoners to that Place we wrote him to provide them both Guards & Provisions, but if one Post will do we would prefer it to two. Be pleased to consult Judge Atlee thereupon, his opinion would deservedly have much Weight. In any Event I would wish you to inform Mr Scott what he has to depend upon.

Since writing the above your Letter of the 8 Inst. came to Hand by which I observe that you have 180 men for the Lancaster Guard & 120 Detached as Guards to York & Philad. Should the Prisoners be actually march'd to York would not have them recalled, But will it be necessary to keep 250 men as a Guard at Lancaster? if it is possible to lessen it at this busy Time it would be a great Relief to the County: We shall make no Alterations without Col. Woods & your Opinion.

With Respect to the Pay of the commiss^d officers we have had no Difficulty here. The Term Bounty means the Difference between Continental Pay & Militia Pay & was adapted to the Circumstance of the Paper money when Congress gave 50s. Paper ℔ month & in Proportion to officers it was necessary to make an Addition, this was the Price of daily Labour which was termed a Bounty—but this has now ceased & the officers expect to receive the same Pay in hard Money as the Continental officers are entitled to. There is no officer who will not be entitled to more than 3–6 ℔ Day so that there can be no Difference now for the Term Bounty to operate upon. This will also answer your Question what Pay are Officers & Men entitled to as the Reply will be as to officers the same Pay as in the service of the United States, Privates 3–6 ℔ day.

Your Construction of the militia Law with Regard to Tryal & Punishment is just & agreeable to constant Usage the Articles of War of the Continental Troops are allways deemed the Rule of Governm^t when they are in Continental Service as at present. On Exercise & Field Days or State Duty the Case is different. With Respect to the Power of the Lieut. to order a Court Martial & determine on the sentence. It has been usual for the Lieutenants at a Distance to direct Courts martial but in all Cases of a Genl Court Martial the Proceedings have been sent to me for Approbation, or in my Absence to Genl. Potter or Gen. Lacey.

From the State of your Cavalry we apprehend that Part of the Law is eluded which directs every Horseman to be properly equipped or liable to his Fine for not serving in the Foot, we have in Bucks County had a Scrutiny in the matter which at once put the Troop in respectable Condition. We would wish you to attend particularly to the Section & have it executed as it is already a Subject of Complaint that these light Horsemen as they call themselves only take a Ride unequipped round the Battalion & then go Home which they call doing Duty & complying with the Law. As to a Volunteer Corps of Cavalry we apprehend as the Law stands it is not practicable but it is probable that if a Number of Gent. would as in this City equip themselves completely & be ready to turn out at any Time without Respect to Tours of Duty &c. that the Legislature would indulge them. As to Cavalry Equipments we have none & neither money or Credit to procure them unless the Militia Funds could help us. We hope by this Time Col. Atlee has made up his Accounts and transferr'd to you the State of his Proceedings.

You observe that you expect Difficulty with Respect to Arms for these Troops who are going to Sunbury which leads us to ask whether every Time the militia go out they expect to be supplied with new Arms if they do it is the most extraordinary Establishment in the World, if they do not there must be the Arms of the militia of Cumberland whom they are going to relieve. I would wish you to write up to Northumberland & to the Lieutenant of Cumberland upon this Subject If the publick supplies the Arms, they ought to be left when the Time of Duty is finished. It is much to be lamented that we are not on the same Footing in this Respect as Jersey & other States where every Man buys his own Gun & Accoutrements & is fined if he does not.

With Respect to the Town Major's office we apprehend it lays wholly with the Board of War to appoint & pay. I am persuaded such an Office is necessary & it is not reasonable to expect you should perform the Duties without proper Compensation, we have never heard of it before nor given any Encouragement to expect you should do the Duties of this officer. We apprehend it would be proper for Mr Atlee as Commiss. of Prisoners or the People of the Town to represent to the Board of War the necessity of such an Officer & the Propriety of its being provided by them as he is only necessary in Consequence of Continental arrangements.

Indorsed,

1781, July 11th. To Colonel Adam Hubley, Lieutenant of the County of Lancaster.

PRES. REED TO VIRGINIA DELEGATES IN CONGRESS, 1781.

Gentlemen,

I take the earliest opp^y to inform you that the Council fully concur with you in your Sentiments respecting the Seizure of Property of the Commonwealth of Virginia* & that the most effectual Measures will be taken for the immediate Restoration of the Property to such Person as you shall direct, & if you think proper a Punishment of the offending Parties if upon Inquiry no mitigating Circumstances shall appear. We beg Leave to assure you, Gentlemen, that we shall on every Occasion be happy in manifesting our Attention & Respect to the State you represent.

I am Gent.

your obed. & very Hble S^t,

J. REED.

Indorsed,

1781, July 12th. To Hon'ble Delegates of Virginia in Congress.

* See pages 260, 266, 272, 274.

Pres. Reed to Col. Wm. Coats, 1781.

Sir,

Having received an Account of the Expences of the Philad. Light Horse during the late Tour, I embraced the first Opp^y to lay the same before the Council, who are disposed to make every reasonable Gratification. As it is the first Time we have had an Application of this Nature & the Account only contains Names & Sums it has been concluded to refer the Accounts to yourself, Col. Smith, & Col. Dean to liquidate, & after examining the Vouchers to report to this Board what Sum will be just & reasonable, having on the one Hand due Regard to the Men & on the other to the publick Interest, in which you will consider that what is now done will on future Occasions be a Precedent, not only to this Troop, but to all others within the State. We are informed that it has been suggested that an Allowance of Expences have been made to the Philad. Troop of Light Horse, but it is a Mistake, as they have always defrayed their own Expences in every Respect.

I am, Sir, with due Esteem,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,

1781, July 12th, to Col^o William Coates, L^t of P^a C^y.

Wm. Bradford, Att'y Genl., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a, July 12th, 1781.

Sir,

Agreeable to the directions of the Council I have waited on the Chief Justice and consulted with him and Mr Bryan upon the Subject mentioned in your Excellency's letter of the 10th inst.

We are all of Opinion That the Commonwealth of Virginia being an independent & Sovereign power, cannot be compelled to appear or answer in any Court of Justice within this State. That all process directed against the person of a Sovereign or against his Goods is absolutely void; that the Sheriff cannot be compelled to serve or return it: and that all concerned in issuing or serving such process are guilty of a violation of the laws of nations: That the Supreme Executive power has a right to enquire into the circumstances of this affair, to call the party and the Sheriff before them and to direct that the Goods attached be immediately delivered up to the Person out of whose possession they have been taken or in whose hands they are attached. And in case of disobedience to commit them to Gaol to answer for the offence.

I am, Sir, your Excellency's

most obedient Servt,

Wm BRADFORD, Jun.*

Directed,

His Excellency the President of the State of Pennsylvania.

* See pages 260, 266, 271, 274,—also Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 2.

Resolutions of Congress, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled, July 12th, 1781.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial from Mr. Marbois, chargé des affaires of France, delivered in a report, whereupon it was resolved as follows.

Whereas, It has been represented to the United States in Congress assembled, that there are many French seamen, subjects of his most christian majesty, in the United States employed on board armed and other vessels in the service of the said states or the citizens thereof; and whereas it has also been represented that the said seamen are necessary for compleatly manning the squadron under the count de Barras, all officers therefore commanding armed or other vessels under commissions from the United States in Congress assembled, are hereby ordered and directed immediately to deliver to the said count de Barras or to any person or persons by him appointed to receive the same, all French seamen subjects of his said majesty who are or may be entered on board their vessels respectively: and if any officer commissioned as aforesaid shall neglect or refuse complying with this order, he shall forfeit his commission and be subject to such other punishment as to right shall appertain. And it is earnestly recommended to the legislatures and executives of the several states to give effectual aid and support for the executing this order and also for delivering to the count de Barras all French seamen as aforesaid that may be otherwise employed within their respective jurisdictions.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.*

Thos. McKean, Pres. of Congress, to Pres. Reed, 1781.

(Circular.)

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive inclosed an Act of Congress of this Day, respecting French Mariners who may be employed in any of the armed and other Vessels in the Service of the United States, or the Citizens thereof.

This Proceeding is so explicit, the Thing desired so necessary,

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 5.

and the Fruits of its Success so interesting to the common Cause, that I rest assured nothing will be wanting on your Part to promote so salutary a Purpose.

I have the Honor to be with very great regard.

your Excellency's

most obedient & most

humble Servant

THO. McKEAN, President.*

Philadelphia, July 12, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency, President Reed.

Pres. Reed to Gifford Dalley, 1781.

Sir,

Congress have most earnestly recommended that some immediate Measures may be taken to accommodate the unfortunate Citizens of Carolina as have lately arrived. And the Council have directed the Dep'y Quarter Master Gen. & the Wardens to provide Quarters in the most commodious Houses. But as it cannot be doubted there are many worthy Citizens who sympathizing in the Distresses of their Countrymen, Sufferers in the common Cause, would voluntarily accommodate them in their Houses—it has been thought proper to send the inclosed Subscription, which you will communicate to such Gentlemen as frequent the Coffee House. Each Subscriber will inform Col. Miles how many it will suit him to accommodate.

I am, Sir,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.,

JOS. REED.*

Indorsed,

July 12, 1781.

Virginia Delegates in Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, July 13th, 1781.

The Underwritten Delegates from the State of Virginia, have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letters of the 10th & 12th instant,† and to express their entire satisfaction at the readiness shewn by the Supreme Executive Council to arrest & punish the attempts made on the rights and dignity of the State they represent in the presumptuous seizure of its property. They

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII, p. 1.

† See pages 260, 266, 271, 272, 274.

will take the earliest opportunity of communicating the whole transaction to their constituents, and have no doubt that it will be equally satisfactory to them, and that they will embrace with pleasure every occasion of manifesting a correspondent attention & respect to the State over which your Excellency presides.

As this is the first instance known to us in which it has been necessary to assert the sacredness of the property of a Confederate State, it is the wish of the Underwritten, that offending parties should have the full benefit of this mitigating circumstance, and that as further notice should be taken of their misconduct than the Supreme Executive Council may judge necessary for the purpose of example.

JOS. JONES,
JAMES MADISON,
THEO^k BLAND.

Col. Robert Levers to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Easton, July 13th, 1781.

Sir,

Last Evening I had the Honor to receive the answer of your Excellency in Council to the two Letters I forwarded by Express, with your Excellency's order for having Col. Jacob Strowd, tried by a Court Martial, and an opportunity offering directly to Philadelphia I embrace it.

The situation of the Frontiers is really distressing. Out of the Eighth Class of the Second and Fourth Battalion only Eight have marched to the Frontier. The First, Third & Sixth are now beginning to march. The want of Provisions is great thro' the whole. This morning I have wrote to Frederick Leimbach, Peter Burkhalder & John Hays Esquires, Sub-Lieutenants, entreating them with the assistance of some of the ablest Patriots & Friends amongst them, to engage for a present supply of Provisions for the Militia, until a fixed method may be fallen upon, and that that will be in a very few days, assuring them, that I have the authority of your Excellency in Council to engage, that the money by them advanced, or the Credit obtained will be repaid, or the debts contracted discharged, from the first moneys arising out of the late Tax Law, which must be soon, and I fully trust the present expected Relief will be obtained.

On Tuesday night last I received an account from Justice Stackhouse, that one Joseph Philips had sworn before him, that he had seen Two Indians on Monday about two miles from Capt. Jacob Hellers, who lives near the Wind Gap, on the Road to Col. Strowds. And yesterday I received another account that Six Indians were seen on Tuesday last a little above Lernes. I should have been over the mountains, but waited the Return of the Express. I shall set off for Col. Chambers's district immediately, and am in hopes of prevailing on the Inhabitants to stand their Ground. From the present dull

Prospect of an appearance of a Body of Militia on the Frontiers from the Eighth class, I have ordered the Fines of every delinquent to be immediately levied, and also of the seventh Class, of which I understand very few turned out. And it appears necessary for the Protection and safety of the Frontiers to call out the First class, otherwise I fear the Frontier will be on the south side of the Blue Mountain. In case of Emergencies of this kind, and a Failure of the class in Rotation turning out, I should be glad of Instructions from your Excellency, whether I may call out a succeeding Class, without waiting for a Resolve of the Supreme Executive Council.

I am well convinced of the Real Service to be effected by a steady and firm adherence to the Militia Law, and your Excellency and the Supreme Executive Council may be fully persuaded, that I shall on all occasions resolutely make it my Rule of Conduct; and give it its full Force, as Exigencies may require.

I find myself at a Loss for want of Horses to send Express, when real necessity may require. If I can with Propriety call on Col. Weiss, the Quarter Master, I beg your Excellency will please to instruct Mr. Weiss, on the Subject. I have the Honour to be,

Sir, Your Excellencys,
most obedient and
most humble servant,
ROBERT LEVERS.

Directed,
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire.

Col. James Wood to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, 13th July, 1781.

Sir,

I have just now the Honor of your Excellencys of the 9th* Instant, and have Communicated the Contents to Col. Hubley, who will take the necessary steps to prevent any further Preparations being made in the Neighbourhood of York town. With respect to accomodating the whole of the Prisoners, including those of the Convention Troops within the Picquets, I think your information Erroneous; there is at Present upwards of two Hundred men with four Hundred Twenty seven women and Children without the Picquets, sheltered with Blankets and Planks procured by themselves, and yet the Barracks are exceedingly Crouded; add to this a malignant Fever Prevails among them, of which many have died, and upwards of one hundred are now Down with it, upon the whole, if your Honble Board Determine to Keep them here, I think it will be absolutely Necessary to enlarge the Picquets, and to direct a Quantity of Oak Plank to be Provided, to make shelters for themselves, and which may answer as a Temporary Expedient; Besides, I think it wou'd be an exceeding

* See page 262.

Proper measure to have a House detached from the Barracks, appropriated for an Hospital, and to remove the sick as they are taken Down; for the security of which, a small Detached Guard would be sufficient. The Present Guards consist of about three Hundred non-commissioned and Privates, with their proper officers, part of which, were intended to Guard the British to York, and a Guard for the removal of the seamen now confined here, to Philadelphia. I am clearly of opinion, that One hundred and fifty men properly Officered, will be a sufficient standing Guard for this Post. I am Happy to inform your Excellency that I have found a real disposition in the Commissary of Prisoners, and the Commmanding officers of the militia to do every thing in their Power for the Good of the service. I shall set off to-morrow for Reading, and will return in a few Days to this Place, where I shall be ready to receive any further orders you may think Proper toHonor me with. I am with the greatest respect and Esteem,

Sir, Your Excellency's
Very Obed't Serv't.
J. WOOD.

Directed, Public Service.
His Excellency, President Reed, Philadelphia.

Return of Provisions seized for the Use of the Convention Troops, 1781.

Return of Provisions seized and taken for the Use of the Convention Troops. By order of Col. James Wood.

	C.	qrs.	lb.		
Nicholas Haiziman,	9	3	19	Neat	Common flour.
Judah Boon,	36	2	24	Neat	do.
Jacob Oyer,	17	2	12	Neat	do.
	64	0	27		

Samuel Heigh,	458lbs	Fresh Beef	Valued	@ 5d. pr lb.
John Heihler,	561lbs	do	do	@ 4d. pr lb.
	1019lb			

Sir,

I have given certificates for the above articles taken for the use of the Convention troops. The flour was not praised the people not kowing the Market price of common flour this matter is left to the person who will pay.

I am Sir, your obedient humble servt.
JNo ALEXANDER.
Reading, July 10th, 1781.

Directed,—Col. James Wood.

Capt. A. G. Claypoole to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, July 13th, 1781.

Sir,

In obedience to orders I repaired to Newton to take charge of the Recruits to be furnished by Bucks County; but one of the Commissioners informing me there was no Probability of receiving any before the beginning of next Week; and finding no commissary or Person on whom I could call for Provisions or Quarters for myself or any Recruits I might receive, concluded to return here & apply to the General for Instructions on the Subject; but as he is not in town thought it not improper to lay these circumstances before the honourable Council for that purpose.

As I have already been at some Expence & must unavoidably incur more in this Business, hope some Advance may be allowed me.

I have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's
Obedient humble servant.
A. G. CLAYPOOLE,* Capt.
3 P. R.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq'r, President of the honourable Supreme Executive Council.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July 13th, 1781.

Sir,

I have this moment been favoured with ye perusal of a letter to Colo. Wood respecting the Prisoners and Guards at this place. It appears Colo. Miles and some others have represented that the Convention Troops, which were intended for York-town, might easily be accommodated in the Barracks at this place. Upon what principles they have gone I cannot conceive—for my part, I differ widely with them, and beg leave to give your Excellency & Council some reasons in support of my assertions.

Exclusive of 500 Women & Children, the Prisoners here amount to about 1400 men (the whole amount near 2000)—the Barracks has 78 rooms in it, so that not less than 26 Souls must be put in each of them to accomodate the whole; heretofore it has been thought 15 in a room was an Over-proportion—and as matters stand now, it would be cruel to the last degree to put more in. I can assure Council that since the addition of a part of the convention troops to those

* See Col. Rec. Vol. XIII., p. 8.

already in the Barracks, not less than from 4 to 6 are daily buried, owing to their crowded situation; and should those which yet remain out be also ordered in, their situation must be truly distressing. I conceive it my duty to be particular on this subject, and beg Council will take the matter under further consideration.

With respect to the number of men on duty here, I am fully of oppinion 150 will answer every purpose, Provided the whole Prisoners should remain. But should they be divided (as was ordered) It will take all the men now here to Guard them properly (allowing a sufficient Guard to remain here) to the places they were intended for.

As I have not yet received any directions for a reduction, I shall continue them untill further orders.

I am just returned from Cox-town; the Militia who were ordered to Rendezvous there, were delayed a few days longer than was expected owing to the want of Provisions;—Not an ounce was provided for them on their arrival, and had I not luckily came up and advanc'd as much hard money as would purchase 6 days' rations, (including the days they were without any) to carry them to Northumberland, they must have disbanded—and, indeed, it was with considerable difficulty that I got them to wait untill provisions could be procured.

Council will, I hope, give the Purchasing Commissary at this place orders to reimburse the amount of the monies I advanced for that purpose.

I have the Honor to be, with every respect,

your Excellency's most Ob^t hum. serv^t,

ADM. HUBLEY, J. L. L. C^y.

Directed,—(On public service.)

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, Presid^t of Pennsy^a, Philadelphia.

Council to V. P. Bryan, 1781.

Sir,

The Council hav'g received information of a new species of villany going forward in this city, by means of a base metal in form of the English half pence, request you will enquire into this abuse. Christopher Ludwig and Francis Wade can give you the necessary information in the case.

I am, &c.,

T. M.*

July 14, 1781.

* See proclamation of President and Council in Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., page 4.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

We have this Morning received the inclosed Draught of Congress, which we transmit for your Consideration & Advice. From some Hints dropped by Mr Smith, [of] the Loan Office, we were induced to think that Congress had already drawn the full amount of their £o, & sent to him for more perfect Information; but we found him doubtful & unable to ascertain it at present. We have been informed since, that the same Question rose in Congress when the Order was moved for; but an Opinion prevailed that the Draughts had not yet exceeded the claims of Congress. We have thought it proper to inform you of these Circumstances, as they may be necessary for your Consideration. In Consequence of the Resolutions of the House, Our Answer to Congress will properly depend on your Determination, & be governed by it; & as the Officer seems very importunate, we wish for your Answer as soon as convenient.

I am, Sir, with due Respect & Consideration
Your Obed. & very Hble. Servt.*

Indorsed,
July 14, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Col. Saml. Miles, 1781.

Sir,

Gen. Washington has requested, & Congress has most earnestly recommended to this State, to raise a Corps of 300 Rifle Men, to be employed in the Operations agt New York. With the greatest Difficulty we have borrowed a Sum of hard Money for this Service, & had every Thing prepared for the Officers to enter on the recruiting Business, when we were informed they could not leave Town for want of Horses. We should be extremely sorry that any Delay should arise, as the General is of Opinion that unless they can be at Camp by the 1st Augt they will be too late; under these Circumstances, we intreat you to give the Officers assistance in this Matter, & forward them to their respective Quarters. If it cannot be done, & the Officers there do not enter on the recruiting immediately, it will not only be a great publick Disappointment, but the expence incurred probably will be lost.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,
July 14, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 6.

Pres. Reed to Committee of Congress, 1781.

Sir,

I taket he earliest oppor', to inform the Hon. Committee that the Council have directed Col Miles D. Q. M. G. & the Wardens of the city immediately to accomodate the unfortunate Citizens of Carolina in a Manner suitable to their Rank & Convenience, presuming that notice will be given by Friends where to apply, and also that a Subscription is forwarded to the Coffee House for such well disposed Citizens to sign as chose to accomodate them voluntarily which I have done myself the Honour to lead, & we shall be happy on any occasion to testify our Sympathy & Regard for them as well as our Respect to every Recommondation of Congress in their Behalf.

I have the Honour to be,
Gent. Your obed. Hbbl. Servt.

Indorsed,
July 14th 1781.

Robert Morris to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Office of Finance
Philada. July 14th, 1781.

Sir,

A Letter was left at my House dated In Council Philad. 10th July 1781, but not signed; in this Letter I found enclosed a minute of Council 18 Decemb. last, and a List of the County Commissoners, also a letter from Col. Pickering Q. M. Genel. to your Excellency and am obliged by these Communications. I find by this Letter of the Quarter M. General that it was not respecting the transportation of military Stores as I had supposed, but as there are large Quantities within this State required to be sent to New York, it is probable your Excelly. will have an application on that head particularly as the Eastern States have agreed to transport to the army the Stores that are in their governments. With Respect to the transportation of Provisions I will provide for it, I have purchased on behalf of this State 3000 bbls of flour in New Jersey and 1000 bbls. in State of New York on which the army are now feeding and Considerable sums are saved in transportation the remainder of what I mentioned is here partly applied & partly applying to Continental use.

I understand that the Board of War think it unnecessary to maintain any other Posts than those mentioned in my last, and if militia are called into duty at any Places where posts are not Established, I submit it to the consideration of your Excellency & Council whether it may not be best that you order in such cases the necessary Supplies, and if it be a Continental Charge render the accounts

of their Pay and support at one & the same time for there is no making Contracts for Supplies but at fixed Posts or Magazines, and this is the mode of obtaining supplies pointed out by Congress at present.

I have the honour to subscribe,
myself your Excellencys,
most Obedt Humble Servt.
ROBT. MORRIS,
S. I. of Finances.

His Excellency The President of the State of Pensylvania.

Paul Zantzinger to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July 14th 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honor of Inclosing to your Excellency a Petition of the Corparation of the Borough of Lancaster at the request of the Inhabitants, who are very desirous of having the Convention Troops removed, Your Excellency will at the same time receive Doctor Hustons Certificate shewing the necessity of the Removal of those Troops. I hope the Honble. Council will take it into their serious Consideration, & if possible remove them from this place.

I have the Honor to be,
your Excellencys most obdt. Hbbl. Servt.
PAUL ZANTZINGER.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Dr. J. Houston to Paul Zantzinger, 1781.

Lancaster, July 14, 1781

Sir,

My opinion being desired concerning the State of the Fever of the Prisoners in the Barracks in this Borrough, I think my Duty to assure you that the Jail Fever attended with the most malignant symptoms prevails very generally among them, that it will be extreamly difficult to eradicate it from those already there without some additional Quarters or Buildings, & morally impossible if those of the Convention be added, & that the Inhabitants of the Borough, especially those any way concerned in the Care of them, are in the most imminent Danger of contracting the Contagion.

I am Sir,
your most obedient Servant,
J. HOUSTON

Paul Zantzinger, Esquire.

Thomas Nevell to Pres. Reed.

Philadela. July 16th, 1781.

May it Please the Honorable the President & Council.—I should be far from troubling the Hono^r. board with trifles, but can hardly help thinking proper attention has bean paid to the Estimate delivered to Council by me ye 16th april last,* otherwise I could not be Censurable for purchasseing ye Scaffold poles or any other part of my Conduct respecting pulling down ye Steeple or Erecting ye Roof according to its present Construction, for if the Council pleases I would refer them to the aforecited Estimate, inclosed in a Letter to Council of the same date, where its mentioned, That altho' the Steeple may be pul'd down without much Expence of Scaffolding yet no part of the Projections can be repaired or the Roof put on without a Scaffold from the Ground, and mentioned the number of poles wanted for that purpose, I likewise Exhibited a Rough Scitch of the Roof, and from the answers Received at that Time verily thought Council had formed nearly the same Ideas as myself, boath of Scaffold & Roof, and was under no aprehention of going rong—all I intend by the foregoing is I would have Council understand I meant to have no will of my owne in the matter, further then I think all Publick Buildings should have the apearance of Deasancy, However I submit to the determination of Council in Covering the Roof with Rough boards and hope to escape Censure.

And am the Councils Humb. Servant,

THOS. NEVELL,†

Directed,

To the Honourable the President and Council.

Gen. Anthony Wayne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Woodson's ferry, James River,

16th July, 1781.

Dear Sir,

The retreat of Lord Cornwallis to Portsmouth, and the advance of Col. Tarlton with about nine hundred Cavalry & Infantry towards South Carolina, probably with a view of putting Gen'l Green in a disagreeable situation, has determined the Marquis La Fayette to order the Pennsa. & Virginia Troops under my Command, to that Quarter.

The smallness of our numbers has also induced us to throw the Pennsyl's into two Battalions, sending field and other officers from each Corps sufficient to bring on as many men as may be in readiness to re-inforce us; together with Shoes and other Articles of Clothing, of which we stand much in need.

* See page 76. † See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 16

When we first left York our numbers were greatly deficient; those who were returned Sick, Absent, still remain in Pennsa., which, added to the loss sustained in Action, and those other Casualties incident to all Armies, renders it absolutely necessary to call for a reinforcement from each Regiment; by a Comparative view of the within return, with that sent from York, you will see the necessity of forwarding all such as may be Cloathed and equiped, with all possible dispatch.

I have the pleasure to Inform you that a few days respite has restored many Men, who, from fatigue, were beginning to fall Sick, and that a great proportion of our wounded will be able to take the field in a little time.

May I hope for your Excellencie's Influence on this occasion, and to believe me with much esteem,

Your Excellencies most obt. &
very Humble Servant,
ANTY WAYNE.

N. B. A little Thread & Needles will be of the utmost utility.

His Excellency, Gov. Reed.

Genl. Washington to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Head Quarters, near Dobb's Ferry,
16th July, 1781.

Sir,

I am honored with your Excellency's Favor of the 7th.* I am exceedingly happy to find that the mode of procuring the specific Supplies demanded of the state is now upon such a footing that we may hope for a full & regular Compliance in future; and I doubt not but if the other States will follow the Example, and appropriate a proportion of their Revenue to the Disposal of the Superintendant of Finance, we shall soon see our affairs assume a new & pleasing Appearance. I am convinced that the sole Hope of the Enemy has long rested upon the deranged State of our Finances. Indeed, all our late Difficulties and Distresses have proceeded from that Source; for I believe it will be confessed that the Country, since the Commencement of the War, never abounded so much in Resources as at present.

The Resolve of Congress of 25th May, having no Retrospect, I can put no other than my former Construction upon it, which was that all promotions in the Artillery & Cavalry were to be made up to that Date, upon the Principles which had governed for three Years in those Corps. Is it not strange that the Officers of the Regiment, late Proctor's, should be the only ones who claim a Right

* See p. 255.

to an Exemption, from what they very well know has been the Rule of Service. It is but a few Days ago that a memorial from them to Congress, upon the same Subject, was handed to me by the Board of War, when I answered it in the same Manner that I had before done to the Council.

Your Excellency cannot oblige me more than by interesting yourself in raising the Rifle Corps. We experienced the Want of such a Body of Men in a little affair near Kingsbridge, the Beginning of this Month, in which our Troops were galled considerably by the Hessian Yagers, who did Execution at a Distance to which our Musquetry could not reach.

The Proceedings upon Lieut. Bigham are transmitted by this Conveyance to the Board of War. Your Excellency can, therefore, call upon them for a Copy of the whole, or such Extracts as may be necessary.

I have the honor to be,

With great Respect & Esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedt Servant,

G° WASHINGTON.

His Excellency, President Reed.

Brig. Gen. Wm. Irvine to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Carlisle, July 16th, 1781.

Sir,

I received a letter yesterday from Major James Moore, at Hanover, in York County, in which he informs me the Magistrates are backward to Quarter the Troops there, as they have not received any particular Instructions from Council, for the purpose. I am also informed from other Posts, particularly by Major Grier at Lebanon, that the purchasers have refused to procure any more Provisions, as Mr. Morris is to find the supplies for the States. As it may be some time before Mr. Morris gets his arrangements made, I fear the Troops will suffer in the mean time. I must, therefore, request the interference or influence of the Hon'ble Council on this point.

The mode I was informed Mr. Morris intended adopting, in my opinion will not answer, viz., to supply only at one General Rendezvous. The Recruits found by the Classes must have provisions immediately on their inlisting—beside we have no Tents or Camp Equipage of any kind yet, prepared to enable us to draw the whole together. I have not got any particular Returns of the number of Class Men got in Philadelphia, or the lower Countys—but am sorry to inform Council that York & Cumberland are very slow, indeed, they seem quite indifferent about the matter—it is true this is a bad

season for the business, being in the midst of Harvest, perhaps after that is over, they may do something.

The people in general seem as easy and secure as if there was no War in the Country.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, with great respect
& esteem, your Excellency's
most obedient Servant,
WM. IRVINE.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire.

ROBT. MORRIS, S. F., TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philadelphia, 16th July, 1781.

Sir,

I had the honour to inform your Excellency on the 6th instant of an act of Congress of the 28th June last, directing me to press a Compliance with the several Requisitions of Congress on your State. I am not yet in Condition to State the Account of Specific Supplies, but I enclose you a Certified Copy of the Acc^t of your State for Money, by which it appears that there is due to the United States 38,565,995$\frac{80}{90}$ Dollars of the old Emission & 1,789,289$\frac{80}{90}$ of the new, exclusive of the $\frac{4}{10}$ due by the Resolution of the 18th March, 1780. Your Excellency will be able to determine how much has been paid, as also how much of the Specific Supplies has been furnished. The Remainder of those Supplies forms an additional Balance due to the United States, which it is my duty to urge the Payment of, I am therefore to request that you will be pleased to lay these matters before the legislature of your state, and intreat their compliance with the Requisitions of Congress.

Your Excellency must be sensible of the Impracticability of carrying on the war, unless the States will cheerfully furnish the means; whatever they grant, will, I trust, be faithfully applied so as to produce the greatest good to the whole, But if the means be withheld, those and those only who are instrumental in it must be chargeable with the consequence.

Having the most thorough Reliance on your Excell'y^s Disposition, to promote the Public Cause, I earnestly recommend to you this very important Object.

With every sentiment of Respect,
I have the Honour to be your Excellency's
most obedient & humble serv.,
ROBT. MORRIS,
S. F. of Finances.

Circular.

His Excellency The President of S. E. Council of the state of of Pennsylvania.

JOSHUA MERSEREAU TO GOV. LIVINGSTON OF N. J., 1781.

Elizabeth Town, July 16, 1781.

Sir,

I take the Liberty at request of Capt. Scudder, to acquaint your Excellency, that on Examination of Mr. John Henderson, yesterday, (a British Deserter, now on his Way to your Excellency, with a Pass from Captain Scudder) I perceived a great backwardness in s^d Henderson of giving a Direct answer to many Questions I put to him respecting his Coming off, and must Confess I am very Jealous of him, as the whole of his proceeding may be evasive, and Deceive us here, merely to pass thro' the Country, under pretention of going to his *Uncle*, in Virginia, and when there, Joyn the British Army,

He is either come as a Spye or out of fear of receiving his Just reward. Your Excellency's Superior knowledge will Direct the farther Government of Mr. Henderson; as a Word to the Wise is sufficient, I shall Conclude with my best Wishes.

And have the honor to be,
With Every Sentiment of Esteem,
Your Excel^ys most obed^t, Hum. Servt,
JOSHUA MERSEREAU.

P. S.

I have, since writing the within, had the pleasure of learning an Exceedingly good Character of the Within Jno Henderson; that he has been in our Service, behav^d well, taken a Prisoner, and insisted on an Exchange, but refus^d by the British, in Consequence of his Uncle's interest; the above information is from Messrs. Asher Randolph & John Brown; Brown knew him in the R^t, and Randolph was in the Sugar house with him 8 months, Confined, & both believe him to be a good friend to the Country. Your Exc^y will please to Excuse the freedom I take in this instance, as particular Circumstances require it.

I am, as within,
J. M.

Directed,

His Excel^y, Govr Levingston, or in his absence, to Col. Brailey, Esq., at Prince Town.

PRES. REED TO HON. ROBERT MORRIS, 1781.

Council Chamber, July 16, 1781.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your Favour of the 14th, and take the Opp^y to authenticate the Letter of the 10th Inst., in which by some Accident the official Signature was omitted.* The Application for

* See page 281.

Transportation would at this Time be particularly distressing, as the Waggon Law is expired & the present Assembly did not think its Revival expedient—Unprovided with Specie also, which alone commands this Service, we shall be illy able to give the Assistance which may be necessary in transporting the Military Stores. We had flattered ourselves that the late Tax Bill would have given us some speedy Relief, but are informed that at least 3 Months must elapse before any Product can be expected even from this City & County, & double the Time from the Country.

Col. Morgan, we are informed, & your Letter countenances it, intimated an Expectation of your including the Militia Posts under your Care—but it was a Misapprehension, as we have made Arrangements for the Supply of all mere Militia Posts, but we do not include Reading, York & Lancaster in this Description, as the British Prisoners are stationed there. Yellow Springs, Wyoming & Easton, are all Continental Posts, & as they are included in Gen. Washington's enumeration we apprehend will fall under your Care unless he should make any Alterations in the latter, the other two we conceive must for the present be considered as permanent.

We have long since given up the Hope of liquidating any Account of the State with the Continent; we consider every Advance as an absolute Disposal of the Money, & upon this Principle have deem'd it safest to guard in the first Instance rather than trust to the precarious Hope of future Settlement & Discount. Of all the Militia called out during the War we have never received of the United States more than present Subsistance, & the Intricacy of the Accounts, with the Fluctuations of the Currency, will we fear render the Settlement extremely uncertain, not to say impracticable. But it seems unnecessary to add more upon this Subject, as we seem mutually to understand that fixed Posts or Magazines will fall under your Patronage, casual ones & Militia other than those stationed for continental Purposes to fall within ours. And for these we will endeavour to provide as well as an empty Treasury will admit

I am Sir, with Respect & Esteem,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,
July 18, 1781.

Directed,
Hon. Robert Morris, Esqr.

Pres. Reed to Hon. George Bryan, 1781.

Sir,

The Council herewith send you the first Deed that has presented to us for the Sales of the State Island. We apprehend it will be

proper that the Trustees or at least one of them should certify the Right of the Purchasers, & see if the Deed is conformable to the Terms of Sale & Plan of the Lots.

Which upon the present Occasion we request you would please to do.

I am, Sir, with much Esteem,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Col. James Wood to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Reading, 17th July, 1781.

Sir,

I am Exceedingly embarrassed how to act with Respect to Huting the German Troops in the Vicinity of this Place; the Lands aluded to in your Letter to Col° Eckert,* and which you supposed to be vested in the Proprietaries, is claimed by the Inhabitants, under former Agreements has been surveyed and the Taxes paid by the Persons in Possession, so that I conclude altho they have no legal Title, yet they are intitled in Equity; and being altogether Unacquainted with the Laws of the State, I have thought it Prudent to refer the matter to your Excellency, and to Postpone any Proceedings until I receive your farther Instructions. The Place adjudged the most proper for Building the Huts is Claimed by a Mr. Huster, as you will perceive by the Inclosed Letter from his son. Another Place was thought of by Col° Eckert, Claimed in the same manner by a man who has absconded, which is Distant about three and a half miles from Town and which I have Viewed, but am of Opinion it will be very inconvenient from the hardness of the road to it, and the stream of water being small and uncertain. Col° Eckert and myself are of Opinion that the Continental stables and a large Store House might be converted into Barracks to advantage, by raising them about two feet and underpining with stone, by which it would make them two stories, and with some small additions wou'd shelter the whole of the Troops; however this wou'd be attended with inconvenience, as their Fire wood must be waggoned, but I am told not any considerable Distance: my Intention is, if the Troops are to be Hutted, and the Quarter Master can Procure Tools, and a Person acquainted with Building to superintend the work, to have them Built by the Troops, and in such a manner as to be of use upon any other or future Occasion; I mentioned this matter to the Quarter Master, who tells me that the situation of his Department is such as to render it very Difficult for him to Procure the necessary Tools; and that it won't be in his Power to get a superintendant for want of Money. I am Just seting off to Lancaster in Expectation of receiving your Orders

* See page, 231.

respecting the British Troops, and shall return to this Place so soon as I have adjusted matters there; in the mean time any Orders addressed to Col° Eckert or Major Bayley, will be strictly complied with..

I have the Honor to be with the greatest respect,
Sir, y^r Excellency's
Very Ob^t Servt,
JAMES WOOD.*

P. S. The Continental Stables are 175 feet by 20, and the Store House is 60 by 20.

Directed,
Public Service.
His Excellency, President Reed, Philadelphia.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War office, July 17, 1781.

Sir

The Board are embarrassed in their Calculations of the Numbers of Rations necessary to be delivered at Lancaster & in forming a judgment whether any Contract or to what Amount should be made for York Town under an Uncertainty whether any & what Prisoners are to be stationed at that place. As the Board left the Determination of this Matter to Council so as to make the stationing the prisoners most convenient to the State, we request the Favour of your Excellency & the Honble Council to inform whether any Alteration is to be made in the Cantonment of the Prisoners from that understood by the Board to be the one fixed upon, viz., that the German Prisoners of the Convention should be stationed at Reading, the British Convention Troops at York Town, & the unconditional Prisoners at Lancaster. We are led to give you this Trouble for the sake of precision & that no unnecessary Contracts may be made at any place or larger Provision made any where than is absolutely necessary.

We have the Honor to be,
with great Respect,
your very obed. Servants,
RICHARD PETERS,
By order.

Directed,
His Excellency, President Reed.

* See pages 262, 276.

Pres. Reed to Hon. Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

I duly received your Favour of the 16th Inst.,* which contains so many interesting Remarks that the Council wish to give it a particular Consideration. Inclosed is the Warr^t for £146,250 countersigned agreeable to your Request. I am Sir,

with much Esteem,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.,

J. R.

Indorsed,—July 18, 1781.
Directed,—Hon. R. Morris, Esqr, Sup., &c.

Council to John Hart, 1781.

Philadelphia, July 18, 1781.

Sir,

Captain Claypoole, who is appointed to receive the recruits of your County at Newtown, has applied to Council,† and requested that provision may be made for them while they remain in that town. On consideration the Council request that you will contract with some suitable person to supply them at as reasonable rate as can be obtained; the payment to be made in specie, and Council will endeavour to comply with your contract. The Council rely on your endeavours on this occasion, and confident of your success,

I am your most obedient

& very Humble servant,

T. M.

P. S. As it is not probable there are at present any number of the recruits at Newtown, Capt. Claypoole will not go there immediately, but the Council request that as soon as his presence is necessary you will give him notice, that he may go and take charge of them.

Directed,
John Hart, Esq., Bucks County.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

Gent.,

In answer to your Favour of yesterday‡ I beg Leave to acquaint you that the Prisoners will be stationed agreeable to the original Proposals, viz., The German Conventionalists at Reading—the British at York Town, & the unconditional Prisoners at Lancaster.

I am, Gentlemen, very respectfully

Your Obed. Hbble. ser.,

J. R.

Indorsed,—July 18th, 1781.

* See page 286. † See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 8. ‡ See page 290.

Col. Saml. Hunter to Col. Maxwell Chambers, 1781.

Sunbury, July 18th, 1781.

Sir,

The 16th Inst. Captain Johnson came here with twenty six of your County militia, who is to serve their touer of Duty in this County, but in the Manner they have come here they are of no service to us; fourteen of them wants Guns, and no ammunition here to give them, which is Realy hard if they are Oblidged to Return without doing any service to their Country. I am Geting some arms Repaired for them, but haveing no ammunition nor flints I do not know what to do in case you do not send up some by the man Captain Johnson sends Down.

Coll. Hubley wrote me there was fifty to be up, but I never Imagened the Militia would be ordered here without being properly Equip'd If its Possable Endeavour to procure a little ammunition and flints for those fifty men you have sent up, as we have no Stores here of any kind, not even Provision; especially meat is very scarce in this Distressed County.

The Enemy has made their appearance once more amongst us. Yesterday there was three Indians Discovered about twenty miles up the north branch by one of Capt. Robinson's men.

I am Sir,

your most Humble Servt,

SAML. HUNTER, L. N. C.

Directed,

Coll. Maxwell Chambers, Sub Lieut. Lancaster County, Paxton.

Col. A. Hubley, Lt. of Lr. Co., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July 18th, 1781.

Sir,

I cannot forbear making my grateful acknowledgements for your Excellency's most obliging favour of the 11th instant,* which came to hand late last evening.

With respect to the Prisoners here, I have wrote your Excellency full on the subject a few days since. It not only contains mine, but the oppinion of the Inhabitants in general. I have no doubt every thing on the part of your Excellency & Council will be done to make matters agreeable both to the people & the Prisoners.

And as to the militia which marched for Northumberland a few days since, I have wrote to Colo. Hunter, and have desired him to put the arms of the relieved party into their hands.

* See page 269.

Colo. Attlee has not yet furnished me with any accounts or other papers relative to the Lieutenancy of Lan^r County, so that I am totally ignorant of his proceedings, and consequently have it not in my power to do any thing with those people who have not yet settled their fines.

Mr. Hall, D. Commiss'y of Milit'y Stores here, informed me, last evening he received Orders for all the powder, Cartridges, &c., &c., at this place to be forwarded for the Army to the Eastward immediately.

That Cartridges and flints will be wanted here so long as a guard is kept up, I need not to impress upon your Excellency & Council.

I have only to request you will furnish me with an order to detain as many here as you shall judge will be necessary. Mr. Hall expects such an order, and as it is probable the stores will shortly move off, I must beg Council will forward these orders as soon as possible.

I have the Honor to be
with every respect & esteem,
Your Excel'ys Ob't serv^t,
AD'M HUBLEY, Lt. Lr. Cy.

Directed,
(On public service.)
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, Presid^t of Pennsy^a, Philadelphia.

Pres. Reed to Gen. Washington, 1781.

Sir,

I have now the Satisfaction to inform your Excell'y that having with great Difficulty accomplished a Loan of some hard money, we have begun the Recruiting the Rifle Corps requested by your Excell'y, to the Command of which Major Parr has been appointed. The Plan of the Business as well as the Bounty was settled in Concert with Genl. St. Clair & Major Parr, & we flatter ourselves it will be as successful as the busy season of Harvest & very high Wages for Labourers will admit.

I also take this Opp'y to acquaint your Excell'y that we have a Prospect of a considerable Addition to the Line from men raised for 18 months by Classes, agreeable to a late Law. The Object of this Law being to raise Men without any Commutation in Money; very considerable Exertions are made by the respective Classes, & Bounties as high as £25 Specie have been given. I take the Liberty to inclose your Excell'y a Draught of the recruiting Instructions in both Cases. The Officers who were not necessary with the Troops are stationed in different Places to receive the Recruits.

I am.

Indorsed,—July 19, 1781.

Charles Hall to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July ye 19th, 1781.

Please your Excellency,

Last Monday came on a trial between Laulord & Tenant, in the course of the trial it appear'd to me that the Commonwealth is intitled to the Land. Jasper Yeates, Esqr, Attorney for the Defendent when the Jury brought in a verdict for the Plantiff fil'd a Declaration wherein he names the Commonwealth as having a Right to the lands, but as your Honourable Board will hear more of it from the Justices who sat on the trial I shall drop it after mentioning some remarks of Mr Yeates's which he has put into my Hands and allowed me to send a Coppy of them to Council, they are as follows; John Ruby a Native of Reichenbach in the Canton of Bern in Switzerland removed to the Duchey of Deux point & after some years about the year 1742, came into Pennsylvania, he purchased a tract of Land of Wm Adams in Brecknock Township, Lancaster County Containing 100 Acres & Resided thereon untill his Death May 5, 1763. John Ruby makes his Will but does not mention his real Estate therein nor appoints any Executor.

Septr 13, 1765, Letters of Administration with the Will annexed issued to Anna Barbara Ruby his Widow.

June 13, 1765, Wm Adams obtains a Pattent for the above 100 Acres of Land.

Octr 21, 1765, Anna Barbara Ruby the Adm'x dying about this time Letters of Adm'ion issued to Nicholas Johns & Philip Brendle on her Estate.

July 5, 1766, Wm Adams & Anna his Wife Convey the above 100 Acres of Land to Nicholas Johns & Phillip Brendle in fee simple in Consideration of £15.

Same Day Johns & Brendle execute a regular Declaration of trust confessing that the £15 mentioned as the Consideration Money of the Deed was paid by John Ruby & that the Deed was Executed by Wm Adams in trust for the Use of the Heirs of John Ruby.

Recorded at Lancaster.

Same Day Johns & Brendle Execute an indemnifing Bond to Wm Adams on account of his having given them the Conveyance.

March ye 3^d, 1767, Johns & Brendle pass their Adm'ion Acc^t in the Register office whereby there appears a Ball^ce of £24 19 10 in their hands Due to the Heirs of John Ruby.

It is thought that the above tract of Land vests in the Commonwealth under the Act of Assembley of the 27th of Nov^r, 1779.

It escheated to the Proprietors for want of Heirs of John Ruby who have not appeared or made any Claim to the Land since 1763. Whether the Government will interfere in the Matter must be Submitted to the Council.

I have procured a Copy of the Declaration of Mr. Yeates on which the Justices have laid it over under advisement to the first Tuesday of next Month. It is as follows:

Philip Brendle, Landlord
v.
Christian Eshelman, Tenent.

The Tenant in this Cause alledges by Jasper Yeates his Attorney that the title to the Land & Tenements in Question is Disputed & Claimed by the Commonwealth of this State in Virtue of a Right or title accrued and happening since the Commencement of the Lease made to him the said Christian Eshelman under an act of Assembley of this Commonwealth passed the 27th Day of Nov'r, 1779 by Deed under the Lessor Philip Bendle.

J. Yates, ⅌ Tent.,
16th July, 1781.

Whatever may be the Determination of Council on the forgoing I shall be obliged to you to send me some instructions on the Different Estates that have been seized on in this County in my Letter to Council of the 8th February, 1781, you will see how they are Circumstanced. I should have proceeded to sell before this but have been waiting for the instructions of Council which I Requested by Letter Dated the 26th of May, 1781. Col^l Cunningham is well acquainted with the Circumstances of Jacob Boyers's Lands now in the Hands of Abraham Ream.

I am your Excellency's
Most Obediedt & very Humble Ser't,
CHARLES HALL.

Directed,
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq'r, Philadelphia.

John Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, July 19th, 1781.

Sir,

A Cause between Phillip Brendle Landlord and Christian Eshelman Tenant has been tried here before William Henry and Paul Zantsinger Esquires, under the act for the sale of Goods distrained for Rent &c., (Penn^a Laws Vol. I, page 436,) and a verdict by a very reputable Jury of this County was given for Philip Brendle the Landlord after a consideration of ab^t fifteen minutes. The cause tho' one of the clearest took up four or five hours at the Bar. After the verdict delivered and the Justices agreeing with the Jury thereon. Mr. Yeates Attorney for the Defendant gave in the inclosed Allegation under the provisoe in page 437. As I was concerned for the Landlord I thought proper to give a true state of the matter to the Council, That they might Judge with what propriety

the State is brought in in this Tryal of Possession to answer particular purposes, to gain Time for the Tenant in possession and put the Landlord to the utmost trouble and expence in their power.

The Facts are thus.—A certain John Ruby was in his Life Time possessed of a Tract of Land of about one hundred Acres in this County but had no Deed or Conveyance for the same. He died about the year 1763, having first made his Will, being wrote in the German language I send herewith a Copy of a Translation filed with it. His Widow took out Letters of Adm'ion with the will annexed and some Time after died. Nicholas Johns and Philip Brendle the present Landlord took out Joint Letters of Administration on her Estate. William Adams who had possessed the Lands before John Ruby by some means obtained a Patent from the Proprietaries in his own name and the administrators of the Widow Ruby got Adams to convey to them by Deed giving him a Bond of indemnification for so doing and on the same Day 5th July, 1766 Philip Brendle and Nicholas Johns the adm'ors executed a Deed of Trust declaring after reciting the Deed made to them by Adams, That they held in Trust for the Heirs of John Ruby deceased and committed this Last Deed to Record. Nicholas Johns one of the Trustees afterwards also died and the whole management of the Estate devolved on Philip Brendle the Surviving Trustee and the present Landlord. It is alledged by Brendle and I believe some proof can be made thereof that while Nicholas Johns lived several Letters were received from the Heirs in Europe respecting their Claim but during this war not any thing has been heard of them; all the papers relating to the Estate or Transactions thereof are in the possession of some of the Heirs of Nicholas Johns (the dead Trustee.) The Attorney for the Tenant in possession not being able to keep the Lands for his Client alledges that the Estate is Escheated to Government for want of known Heirs under the act for settling Intestate Estates, the 12th Sec^n, page 35 contenting that the Will made by John Ruby did not devise his Lands. The Will is wrote in German and by a very poor Clerk, however the Intention of the Testator can notwithstanding easily be discovered, that his *Estate* should be possessed by his widow during Life and after her decease he gives several Legacies no doubt to be raised out of that *Estate* and lastly devises the Remainder one half to his next Friends and the other half to his Wife's next Friends so that it is apparent that the Intention of the Testator was to give his Estate to the Heirs which he knew existed and no doubt will claim as soon as the Communication between Europe and this Country is opened by the termination of the war. The Justices however have on the whole thought proper to stay their Judgement in affirmation of the verdict untill the Supreme Executive Council could be consulted thereupon, and known whether if they should be of opinion that the State should prosecute their Claim by virtue of 13th Sec^n in page 437. My opinion of the matter was that should the Estate be Escheated under

the Act of Assem. for want of Heirs, the Council would prosecute their Claim at their own Time and not under the provisoe in page 437 which requires them to hold by Decent Deed or from or under the Last Will & Testament of the Lessor accrued or happening since the commencement of the Lease, which was made in March, 1777 and that the State had no occasion to put itself into any difficulty, trouble or expence for want of such Deed and that I could scarcely suppose that Council would intermeddle with an Estate of this kind while there was any probability of Heirs to claim it. The Landlord Philip Brendle has with the Rents hitherto received built a good one Story House and improved the Lands and upon account rendered for the payment of Taxes and the buildings the Estate is in arrear to him £26 16 7 exclusive of the expence in carrying on this Suit against the present Tenant, who had the Honesty to pay him £15 Continental Currency worth at the time 15s. Specie for one year's Rent tho' the Lease mentions good money and thereby brought on the present dispute. The House and Improvements as I stand instructed have not been made without advise and in the cheapest manner and truly to the Interest of the Estate—Should the Heirs appear or the Estate be Escheated to Government, He requires no more than to be reimbursed and for that purpose he is solely anxious to hold the premisses, He now is kep out of the Possession and out of his money while the Tenant reaps every advantage after the verdict by the Jury, untill the matter is decided without being accountable. I therefore pray that Council will Speedily decide on the matter, whether (should they be of opinion that the Estate ought to Escheat,) they will take their own Time and convenience for it or whether they will at the next Court of Common Pleas claim under the provisoe in page 437.

I am Sir with all Respect

your most ob^t hble Servt,

JOHN HUBLEY.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr.

1763, the 5th May.

An ordering or Last Will from Johanes Ruby.

First, he ordered for his House Wife Ann Barbara of what he shall leave behind or his Estate all the Rents or Interest while she lives to use.

Secondly, shall after her Death 40 pound be given to Shertses youngest Son.

Thirdly, 10 pound shall come to the poor Reformed School Children.

Fourthly, there shall be given to Dorothea who lives with him 3 pound or one Cowe, the Remainder shall fall or com the one half

part to Johanes Ruby's next Friends, the other half part shall com to the Wife Ann Barbara her next Friends.

his
HANNIS ⋈ RUBY.
mark.

Hans Shants,
Nicholas Shants,
Philip Brendle.

Proved the 6th September, 1763, before Edward Shippen, Esqr late Deputy Register.

Translated from the German original by Emanuel Carpenter, Esqr, late President of the Courts in Lan^t.

L. Weiss to Timothy Matlack, 1781.

Philada., 19 July, 1781.

Sir,

I have mentioned to Mr Holker, that the Council object to His Excellency the President's executing the Grant of part of Province Island to Mr Holker, Because it was entred in the Vendue Masters' Book as being purchased by Mr Selles.

Mr Holker desired me to represent to Council, that, altho' it was indifferent to him in whose name the Deed was made, yet he should best like to have the Fact stated as it is, rather than the Appearance upon the Book. The 16 of May last, Mr Selles was the Carrier of Mr. Holker's Bid at the Auction, and the next Day of his Money to the Treasury. That the Treasurer's Receipt proves Mr. Holker to be the purchaser, who, by the Law, as well as by the Advertisement of the Trustees, is intitled to the Deed. As Mr. Holker has purchased that Estate with Monies belonging to Gentlemen in France, and he would not appear to them as having made a second hand purchase of Mr. Selles, he gave me the Direction to draw the Deed in his own Name; but he told me this day, that if Council insist on its being made to Mr. Selles, I shall draw it accordingly, with a proper Conveyance from Mr. Selles to Mr. Holker.

I beg you will mention the matter in Council, and give me a line in Answer.

I am, Sir, your most obed^t humble Ser^t,

L. WEISS.*

Directed,
To Timothy Matlack, Esquire, at the Council Chamber.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII. p. 8.

Council to George Bryan and G. Schlosser, 1781.

In Council,
Philada., July 20, 1781.

Gentlemen:

The Council request you will please to lay out, as soon as may be, about one hundred city lots for sale next week, taking the Surveyor General to your Assistance, and lay the plan of them before the Council for their approbation.

To H'nble George Bryan, Esqr., and George Schlosser. Present.

Lt. Col. Mentges to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, the 20 July, 1781.

Honored Gentlemen:

I am informed by Capt Christy, who has the Command of the troops at Reading, that the Magistrates and Quarter Master refuse to quarter the troops amongst the Inhabitants; I must therefore apply to your Honorable Board for Directions how the Men should be quartered at Reading.

I Likewise would beg to know when a man had served three years in the Service of the United States, and was legally discharged, (he formerly being a Deserter of the British Army,) whether that man may take the oath ascribed by the state, and be inlisted by the Classes. There are instances that men would inlist who have resided 6, 7 years in the Country, having deserted before the Contest, but on account of the Oath they may not be inlisted. I beg the Opinion of your Honorable board, and I am, with the Highest Esteem,

Your Hon. Board's Ob. hb'e Servt,

R. P. MENTGES, Lt. Col.

I shall send off all the Recruits to morrow, and will transmit the Names of the Deserters to your Hon'ble Board, with the Deserters at Mr. Funk's.

Directed,

To The Honorable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Pres. Reed to Lt. Col. Mentges, 1781.

Sir,

In Answer to your Letter of this Day, would inform you that the Council are of Opinion, that when the Recruits are inlisted & delivered to the proper Continental Officer, they are to be quartered as other

Troops. For Example, as Capt. Van Horn's Corps & other Continental Soldiers; & that it [is] the Duty of the Continental Quarter Master, or his Dep^y, to take Measures for this Purpose.

With Respect to inlisting Deserters, we apprehend the Number to be so few who deserted before the War, & the Abuses that would follow recruiting such as have deserted since, that we deem it best to abide by the Instructions as given.

I am, Sir, Your Obed. Servt.

Lt Col. Mentgez.

Indorsed,

July 20, 1781.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United States in Congress Asembled,

July 23^d, 1781.

Resolved,

That five suitable persons be appointed and authorised to open a subscription for a loan of thirty thousand dollars, for the support of such of the Citizens of the States of South Carolina and Georgia, as have been driven from their Country and possessions by the enemy; the said States, respectively, by their delegates in Congress, pledging their faith for the re-payment of the sums so lent, with interest, in proportion to the sums which shall be received by their respective citizens, as soon as the legislatures of the said States shall severally be in condition to make provision for so doing, and Congress hereby guaranteeing this obligation.

That the said five persons do also receive voluntary and free donations, to be applied to the further relief of the said sufferers.

Ordered,

That the President send a copy of the above resolution to the executives of the several States not in the power of the enemy, requesting them to promote the success of the said loan and donation in such way as they shall think best.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Pres. Reed to the Hon. C. Hays, Esq., Westmoreland, 1781.

Sir,

Since your Departure we have received sundry Letters from Col. Lochry, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Perry, Col. Marshal & others of your County but none from yourself. By these we find that the unhappy Disputes which we wished to see extinguished seem rather to rise to greater Height. We are truly concerned to find such a Spirit

prevailing but as yet have seen nothing to alter our opinion with Respect to Mr. Perry or Col. Lochry, the former retracts some Part of his Returns, alledges that he had not received what had been returned as on Hand the People withholding it on acct. of the Depreciation of the Money. We earnestly wish to have the account closed that we may have done with him, & desire you to let Mr. Cook & Mr. Moore know that we should be glad they would inspect his acct. as soon as possible, & inform us how they appear. You promised to look out for some suitable Person for a Lieutenant but we presume you have forgot it or an apprehension of giving offence, as to the latter it is plain you have nothing to lose, Col. Lochry & his Friend appearing to us to be as much opposed to you as they can be, and unless you have seen something more favourable to Col. Lochry than when here we desire you would consult with Mr. Scott & some of the other Friends to the Government & nominate a Person to us. Your Plan of calling the principal People together to consult about appropriating the money delivered you for the use of the County appears to us to have been judicious, & the Proceedings of the People with Respect to Gen. Clarks Expedition equally so, Tho' there have been some Suggestions that this Expedition would not be very useful to the County, we could not but suppose any offensive operations would keep the Indians at Home & prove a more effectual Relief to the Frontiers than any defensive Force whatsoever; we hope the same spirit will continue & I assure you it will give us great Satisfaction to support & strengthen it by suitable assistance from this. The Enemy having invaded the State of Virginia & the affairs of the Government necessarily much deranged, we found it impracticable to have the Line run as first proposed. Besides this it appeared that the season was too far elapsed to make the astronomical observations necessary for the operation so that we were obliged to postpone it to next spring. But as we knew a Line was necessary for the Peace & safety of the Country, we at the same Time proposed that a temporary Line should be run from the Termination of Masons & Dixons to the Ohio or 28 miles towards the Ohio, the latter was agreed to & we have on our Part appointed Alex. McClean Esq. Virginia has appointed the Surveyor Gen. of Yeoghigany County, the Express carrys up Mr. McCleans Commission & Instructions with our proposal to Gov. Jefferson & his answer which will be sufficient authority we hope for the Purpose, and we must desire you & the other Gentlemen of Westmorl'd to forward the Bussiness as much as possible. I send you by this oppr. the Laws & Notes of the last Session with some News Papers. Our affairs in Carolina & Virginia wear as favourable an appearance as could be expected, Gen. Greene having nearly recovered the whole Country except the Capitals. We expect Ld. Cornwallis will abandon Virginia, as Gen. Washington & the French army have invested New York which will produce one of two favourable Effects, either The Enemy must leave Virginia or

New York will fall. Since the Paper money retired from Circulation we were for a Time in the greatest Difficulties for money not a Shilling of Specie in the Treasury & nothing to be done without it. I am astonished when I look back & see how we have carried on publick Business, no Situation could be more painful or distressing, We shall be glad to hear from you as often as convenient,

& I am Sir with due Regard,

Your obed. & very Hble. Serv.

JOS. REED.

Pres. Reed to William Scott, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 11 Inst. has been daly received & hope by this Time you have got the affair of the Prisoners in some Way of suitable arrangement. We delayed their March on a Suggestion that they might be accomodated at Lancaster which would have been the Saving of a Guard & much other Expence but found it impracticable. We presume you have by this Time been informed by Col Moylan that on the 20 Inst your Purchases were to cease. Mr. Morris having undertaken to supply by Contract, we must observe that this will not extend to the Post at McCallisters Town which you will still consider under your Care for the present, But we would wish you to contract with some Person There to supply the Recruits & officers with Rations at so much ℔ Ration, or if the Prisoners are at 5 miles Distance from the Town of York we hope it might do to keep Major Moore & his Party at that Place in which Case Mr. Morris' Contract might include them. With Respect to the Timber on the Ground where the Prisoners are to hut, we must observe that the state has in no Instance found any Troops with Wood—that is the duty of the Quarter Master Gen. or his Deputies. We should suppose that it would be proper to have an Estimate made of the Value by indifferent Persons & that the Quarter master Gen. would include it as a proper article of his Department, But we do not mean to make the State accountable by any Direction. The Prisoners are brought into Pennsylv. by order of Gen. Washington & Congress & after they are settled we apprehend you will have no other Concern with them whatever than to keep up a suitable Guard. The remaining Duties will fall upon the superintending Continental officer to keep good order. The Contractor under Mr. Morris to supply them with Provisions & the Qr. Master to provide the articles of his Department as Wood, Tools, Waggons, &c.,

With Respect to the old Continental money in your Hands we desire you to send it down to Mr. Rittenhouse the State Treasurer who will take order respecting it. The seven months men have no Claim upon the State for their Pay, they were Continental Soldiers & must look to the Paymaster of the Regiments to which

they respectively belonged. At the Importunity of some of the Lieutenants & before old Continental money was out of Circulation we gave Permission to pay them 50s. ℔ month if they would take it, afterwards there was a Resolve that whenever the Troops with whom they served received the Pay for those months that these Men should receive also, but this is not the Case, there were 13 months due of which they only received three. When it is considered that these men received large Bounties because the Continental Pay was so triffling it seems extraordinary that they should be so importunate as at the Time of Inlistment they expected no more than 50s cont. ℔ month, But they certainly have no just Claim of Preference over the Troops who continue in Service, and the answer to them may very properly be that when the old Soldiers receive their Pay for that Time, they will be paid also.

We wish to have the Lieuts. accounts made up as soon as possible You know it is a Subject which our Enemies carp at.

I am Sir,

Your obed. Hbbl. Serv. J. R.

Indorsed,—July 28, 1781.

William Scott, Esq., Commiss. &c.,

Pres. Reed to Mr. Mason, 1781.

Sir,

I duly received your Favour of the 1st July,* & laid it before the Council. As all our Plans for Relief of the Frontiers had failed of Success, or at least seemed not to give the Satisfaction we wished, when Col. Hays left the Council, we sent up a Sum of Money by him to be laid out in such a manner as the Inhabitants themselves should deem best. There is no Object which has engaged our Attention more, & none could have given us more Satisfaction to have succeeded in than giving Sufficient Protection to the Frontiers. But when the Nature of the Country, & mode of Warfare practised by the Savages is duly & coolly considered, it is much to be feared that there is no effectual Security in the Nature of Things against their Depredations. If there is, we presume those who live on the Frontiers, & are most interested to put it in Execution, will adopt it, and I may assure you of our hearty Concurrence therein. Gen. Clark, whose abilities & Success are well known, seems to be of Opinion that if properly supported he could give effectual Protection, & the Conduct & Proceedings of the good People of Westmoreland affords a pleasing Prospect that they will exert themselves on this occasion. We highly approve of what has been done, & hope in a short Time to be able to congratulate you on some signal success from that Quarter, The Consequences of which will be long & happily felt by the distressed Inhabitants, with whom we sincerely Sympathize.—We have, in Concert with Virginia, agreed on a

* See page 288.

temporary Line to be run for settling Jurisdiction, & appointed on our Part Alex^r McClean, Esqr, Commissioner. The present express carrys his Commission & Instructions, & we hope he will receive all possible aid from the County of Westmoreland in the Prosecution of this necessary & desirable Work.

I am Sir,

with due Regard,

Your Friend & Hbble. Ser.

J. R.

Directed,

Isaac Mason, Esq., Member of Ass'y, Westmoreland.

Indorsed,

July 23, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Col. James Marshall, Lieutenant of Washington County, 1781.

To Col. James Marshall, Lieut^t of Washington County.

Sir,

I have received two Letters from you, one of the 5th, & the other of 27th June,* which I have laid before the Council. We are sorry to hear of the Obstructions which have been thrown in your Way by ill designing People who keep up unhappy Contests for sinister Purposes. We hope the Time will soon come when these Machinations will be at an End, as we are resolved as soon as the Line is run to exert the Power of legal & coercive Authority over all who shall presume to disturb the publick Tranquillity & distress the County by their mal Practices. It was much our Wish, & equally our Intention to run the Line this Spring, but the State of Virginia being invaded, & the Affairs of the Government in great Confusion, there has not been the Time or Opp'y for that Purpose, which was necessary. Besides that, upon Inquiry we found the Season was too far advanced for those astronomical Observations which were necessary to run the Line with Exactness. We have therefore postponed the grand Operation to next Spring. But as we know it was highly necessary to have a Partition of Territory & Jurisdiction, we proposed to Virginia to run a temporary Line, beginning at the End of Masons & Dixon's & measuring 23 miles, what is by common Computation the five Degrees of Longitude called for in the Charter of King Charles the 2d.—This has been agreed to, & the State of Virginia has sent Orders to the Surveyor of Yeoghegany County to join with one to be appointed by us to that Service.—We have appointed Alexander McClean, Esqr., &

* See pages 193, 233.

this Express carries up his Commission & Instructions for this Purpose. Should he have Occasion for a Guard or any other Assistance from you we make no Doubt he will receive it. As soon as they have run the Line & reported their Proceedings we shall send up Proclamations calling upon all those who shall fall into this State to conform to its Laws & Government, & hope you will soon be relieved from the Anarchy & Confusion which has reigned so long in your Country from this unhappy Dispute.

You & the other Friends of this State may depend upon a firm & vigorous Support in your Attachment to it, & that we shall most heartily concur in every Measure to establish Peace, Good Order & Government as soon as possible.

I am Sir,

Your Friend & Hble. Ser.,

J. R.

Indorsed,

July 23, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Hon. Geo Bryan, 1781.

Sir,

Upon Consideration of the Act of Assembly respecting the Preservation & Sale of the City Lots, we apprehend the Possession ought to be in the State before any such commenced, or it will be the Interests of Partizans to set up & protract the Tryal. We have Hurst & Barnes' Lots now specially in View, & think it would be best to have their Fences moved to their undisputed Line, & then we can direct the Ejectment with more Propriety, & by this means urge the Plff. to a speedy Trial.—In this View of the Matter all the Fences should be taken down from River to River beyond the Limits as now settled by the Verdict of the Jury.

I am Sir, &c.

Indorsed,

July 23, 1781.

Pres. Reed to David Duncan,

Sir,

Your Letters of the 24th April & 9th June* have been duly received. The former, wherein you express a Desire to relinquish your Appointm^t of Commissioner of Purchases, would have been answered sooner but that we were in Expectation a Change of that

* See pages 97, 200.

System would take Place. This has since happened, Mr. Morris having undertaken to supply all the Continental Posts in this State, so that you will of course be relieved from that Appointm^t before this can reach you. That Gentleman has already advertised the Contract for Fort Pitt & its immediate Dependencies. With Respect to the Militia of Westmoreland, we must desire you to continue to supply them untill some Arrangement can take Place for them. We have received & laid before Congress the Petitions ag^t Col. Broadhead & yourself, & are truly sorry for the Disposition which so manifestly prevail. It is much to be feared that the Desire of handling publick Money without Account has been too much the Cause of their Complaint, in which it is also to be regretted that the Distance of Witnesses & the Prevalence of Party in a great Measure prevents an Investigation of the Truth, which I hope whenever made will prove favourable to you. We have received a Letter from Mr. Perry, wherein he retracts a part of his Returns in which he had credited the State for Articles on Hand, alledging that the People will not deliver them. You must receive what you can from him & we must endeavour to call him to Account for the Remainder.

Gen. Clark's Expedition seems to have met with such Encouragement from Westmoreland, that we hope it will be effectual for the Relief of the Frontiers. We must entreat you to give him all the Aid you possibly can without involving us in Expence. Col. Broadhead seems to be of Opinion that it will be of no Service to Pennsylvania, but we find the principal Inhabitants of Westmoreland think differently, as we ourselves do, & therefore hope all the Friends of this State will give it their utmost Weight & Support.

I am, Sir,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.,

JOS. REED.

Directed,—To David Duncan, Esqr, Fort Pitt.

Pres. Reed to Delegates in Congress, 1781.

In Council, Philad^a, July 23, 1781.

Gent.

Agreeable to the Resolution of Assembly* we have prepared a Petition to Congress requesting a Hearing upon the Claim set up by Connecticut for the Susquehanna Lands agreeable to the Articles of Confederation—But as we would not embarrass Congress or take up their Time with a disagreeable Discussion at an improper Season, we shall be glad of your Opinion whether it will at this Juncture be seasonable & proper.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,—July 23, 1781.

Directed,—Honble Delegates of Penns^a in Congress.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 10.

Answer.

The Delegates of Pennsylvania in Congress, present their Compliments to his Excellency the President and Council, and inform them that they have considered their favour of the 23d Inst., and are of Opinion that the present is not the most proper Time to prefer the Petition therein aluded to.

In Congress, July 26, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency, President Reed, in Council.

Pres. Reed to Col. Archibald Lochry, 1781.

Sir.

I duly received your Favour of the 4th July,* & laid it before the Council. The Difficulty of getting any Account of the large Sums of Money sent to the Frontiers has been for some Time a Subject of Reflexion upon all those who have received it, and it would have given us Pleasure if we could have said that your Accounts were an Exception—With Respect to those Sub Lieutenants who have not settled we can only say that the Militia Law has vested you with sufficient Power to compel an Account, & that we must insist upon your putting the Law in Force, as it has become not only a Duty but a matter of indispensable Necessity that the Accounts should be rendered—We know nothing of Col. James Perry's Settlement, as we presume he is a Sub Lieutenant we think he ought to have settled with you & then your general Account to be settled with the publick—We must also observe to you that Col. Broadhead's Letters, tho' they may be proper to shew that the Expresses were not needlessly sent, are not the proper Vouchers for that Part of your Account. The Receipts from the Persons employed are in this Case the proper Vouchers, which doubtless you have.

We have carefully perused the Letters & Paper which accompanied your Letter, & it is with much Pleasure I am to express the Satisfaction of the Council in the Proceedings of the good People of the County with Respect to Gen. Clark's Expedition. It had been suggested by Col. Broadhead that Gen. Clark's Enterprize was not calculated for the Relief of the Frontiers, but designed for another Quarter. We are glad to find from such good Authority that it is otherwise, & make no Doubt after what has passed that he will receive such farther Aid & Support as may be necessary for the Completion of his Purpose. We are persuaded it will give the only effectual Relief from the Distresses which have so long & so seriously afflicted the Frontiers—We are extremely concerned to see the Deficiencies & Disputes which prevail in the County, & which

* See page 246.

must weaken its Credit & Force. The Monies & Ammunition sent & unaccounted for we are persuaded have contributed much to it—The Distribution of the Force of the Frontiers, the Neglect of Duty of Officers commanding that Force, at the same Time overlook'd or indulgently treated by those who should have exerted themselves & the Opportunities supposed to be taken to favour themselves & Friends have all made Impressions, & very probably in some Degree created those Uneasinesses. The Petition of sundry Inhabitants of Westmoreland in your Favour have been read in Council & filed. It will have its due Weight, but we must at the same time observe that these Testimonials are so easily obtained that they do not operate so much to the Advantage of an Officer as a punctual Adherence to his Duty, Impartiality in his Office & a frequent & fair Settlement of his Accounts—which make all such Certificates unnecessary

Not being informed with Respect to the Ballance of your Accounts, which are yet before the Auditors, we can say nothing to the Postscript of your Letter which desires the Ballance to be sent up, but that any Ballance ascertained will be duly paid.

As we do not observe any Thing by this Express which is so special that it might not have come by a private Hand, we hope it will not be a publick Charge. We must repeat our Injunctions in all Cases to be as frugal & careful as possible, in all matters of publick Expense.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,
July 23, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Gov. Morris, 1781.

Dr Sir,

I did not see your Publication of last Wednesday for several days after, & tho' I have had no Concern with the Publication of the Freeman's Journal, nor propose to have any, I think it is incumbent to mention that I do not entirely agree in the Sentiments you have expressed with Regard to the Committee of 1778. I do not recollect to have ever seen Gen. Arnold's Letter before its late Publication, or that the Canada Expedition ever came officially before the Committee, or that any measures were taken by them to frustrate it. As to myself, I am persuaded that as a member of that Committee or individually I never did more than express a mere casual Opinion in Conversation respecting it, that from the Season of the Year, the Want of Preparations, &c., it afforded little Prospect of Success, which Events justified. I thought it best to communicate this to you for your Consideration, should the literary Dispute be continued.

I am Sir, Your Obed hble. Ser.

Indorsed, July 24, 1781.

(Circular.)

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I have the honor to inclose you an Act of Congress of the 23d Instant, and another connected therewith of the 24th, for the purpose of procuring a loan of thirty thousand dollars for the distressed Citizens of South Carolina and Georgia, who have been driven from their country and possessions by the enemy, and are lately arrived in this city; and also for obtaining charitable donations for the further relief of said sufferers.

Your sensations on reading what is already written have, I know, anticipated every thing I would wish on the occasion. I shall therefore subscribe myself,

with the utmost respect, Sir,

Your most obedient

and most humble Servant,

THO. M'KEAN, President.*

Philadelphia, July 25th, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency the President of Pennsylvania.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

July 24th, 1781.

Resolved,

That Messrs. William Bingham, John Bayard, George Meade, and Jacob Barge, and Doctr Hutchinson be and they are hereby appointed and authorized to open a subscription for a loan agreeably to the resolution passed yesterday.

Extract from the minutes.

CHA. THOMSON, Secy.

Pres. Reed to Hon. Geo. Bryan, 1781.

Sir,

We were favoured with yours of the 24th Inst. this morning. The Letter addressed to you was grounded on a Supposition that the Lot claimed by Barn & Hurst stood on the same Footing with

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 15.

others, but your Explanation & the Circumstances of the Case appear fully sufficient to warrant a Distinction, & the Council entirely approve of the Terms on which it now stands.

I am Sir,

with much Esteem,

Your Obed. Hble.

Directed,

Hon. G. Bryan, Esq.

Indorsed,

July 26, 1781.

Pres. Reed, to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

As your Favour of the 16 Inst.* contained some interesting Particulars, we have taken some Time to deliberate upon it, & now take the Liberty to offer the following Remarks :—

Tho' the Warrant for the 4,000 Dollars of the new Emission is not on Acc^t of the $\frac{4}{10}$ due to Congress, but funded on the Ballance of former Requisitions, we apprehend it must fall under your Directions, or we have mistaken the Resolutions of the Assembly, which are grounded, as we presume, upon Propositions made by you & accepted by them. We understand that except the £30,000 reserved for special & domestick Occasions, the whole Paper Money of the State is to be under your Control; that the new Emission of the State was not to be drawn forth; & as a Security for this, the Treasurer was directed to reserve the old Money in his Hands. These being the Facts, we do not see how we are to become possessed of the new Emission, which is only Issuable on an Exchange of new Money for old, at the Rate of 40 for one—or how we can be in a Condition to answer this or similar Demands of Congress; for should the Taxes be so vigorously pushed as to draw in our whole Quota of old Money, we shall be at an equal Distance from the new, while the former remains with Mr Rittenhouse, agreeable to the Resolve of the House, which we have considered as a Part of your Plan, & passed at your Instance.

We scarcely know what to say to those large Ballances due from this & other States to Congress—it seems reasonable that when a State by its Exertions in Time of Necessity & Danger, has advanced Cloathing, Provisions, Ammunition, Militia, & other Necessaries, at the Instance of Congress, & more especially of those Articles which do not come under the Description of specifick Supplies, that it should have a Credit, so as to lessen that Ballance; & we hoped it would have been a material Object with the Auditors of publick Accounts to have had our Account with Congress stated by this Time—in

* Page 286.

which Case we think it would appear that the Advances of Pennsylvania have been very great,& much beyond her Proportion calculated at $\frac{1}{8}$th of the Union. But be that as it may, the Difficulty of Payment still continues, &, we think, must continue, untill we either pass away our old Money for the new Emission, or fall upon some other Mode of procuring the new Emission, such as purchasing it with Specie.

With Respect to the Distinction in the Receipt of Taxes between the well & ill-affected, we doubt very much whether the increased Demand for Paper, arising from its general Receipt in Taxes, would have had so considerable an Effect in appreciating the Paper as you suppose, or ballance the Discontent which would have followed the indiscriminate Assessment. We have Reason to think the Distinction alone has reconciled the well-affected to the Weight of the Burthen, & that there would have been Danger of a general Opposition to the Tax, had it been otherwise: For, as it has been justly observed, the disaffected have taken all natural & accidental Advantages of their Enemies, which can only be ballanced by artificial Advantages created by the Whigs, & which the Custom & Practice of other Nations & other States well warrants. The Feelings of an insulted & injured People require some Sacrifices; & those who would bring them to their Purposes, must sometimes give as well as take.

Mr Searle's Negotiation was two fold—The first to procure certain Supplies of Cloathing, Ammunition, Arms, Artillery, for the Defence of the City, & other Military Stores. The second to procure a Sum of Money on Loan, to relieve present Exigencies. In the first, he had the fairest Prospects, a Company at Lyons having entered into a Treaty to furnish him with the enumerated Articles to the Amount of 2 Millions of Livres—but Opposition arose from an unexpected Quarter—it was suggested that such a Contract would be displeasing to Congress & derogatory to the Union. It is much to be lamented after the great & repeated Disappointments which the Continent has suffered in foreign Supplies, that any Influence should be used to obstruct the Procurement of the most essential Articles of War by other Hands: But so the Fact unquestionably is, As we have received an authenticated Copy of the Propositions as made by the Fournisseaux Generaux, & the Remarks made after these Difficulties had been suggested to them. The Loan of Money, Mr. Searle & Mr. Adams both are of Opinion, will be facilitated in Holland by the Rupture in England; but we do not find the Prospects of either of the Gentlemen in this particular were very encouraging last Winter. We have requested Mr. Searle to return unless he had actually concluded any Contract which his Stay might be necessary to execution. Should final Disappointment follow, we shall regret it as a publick Inconvenience; but we apprehend your Department will be more immediately affected, as every Supply procured by a State is so far a Relief to the United States; and leave so much more Money to be applied

to general Uses, & the Restoration of publick Credit. Had Mr Searle succeeded, we should cheerfully have concurred in appropriating what might have been necessary for supporting & forwarding your present Plan; & should more favourable Advices be received, we shall immediately communicate them. We do not feel ourselves in the smallest Degree influenced by that unhappy Disposition which too often induces Men to counteract Measures which have not originated with, or are not conducted by themselves. On the Contrary, every Measure which has the publick Good for its Object, shall have our Support; & we trust no Gentleman in Office will ever have Occasion to apply to us the Observations which have occurred in Mr Searle's Mission, as it is our clear Intention to afford every reasonable Aid in our Power. Upon this Principle, also, we shall refer every Proposition touching public Money to you, in the first Instance, least we may inadvertantly & unintentionally injure your Plan.

We ever considered the procuring a Sum of hard Money a most essential & indispensible Requisite to restore publick Credit & bring our Paper Currency back to its former Standard; it was on this Principle we endeavoured to Procure it in Europe; if it cannot be got, & you have no other Resource, which in a Case of such Magnitude seems to us beyond the Reach of private Credit, we consider the drawing out of Paper as unavoidable—at the same Time we join in deploring the Necessity, as we are persuaded a Depreciation will ensue, let the Issue be conducted with as much Secrecy & Prudence as Possible. We would just take the Liberty to suggest the defering it as long as you can. The Island Money is gaining Credit & unless an early Check is given, it will communicate its Influence to the other Money. In the mean Time, you may rest assured that we have, in the most pressing & urgent Terms, called upon the Commissioners & all Persons employed in the Collection of Taxes to proceed with Vigour & Energy. Our own Experience of the Difficulties & Mortification which attend pecuniary Supplies, without suitable & sufficient Means, will operate powerfully upon us to strengthen your Hands, & enable you to proceed with Chearfulness in the great Work you have undertaken. Should it be necessary, as we apprehend it will soon appear, to change the Mode of collecting the Taxes, by special Appointments for the Purpose, instead of Election, & laying off the Counties, now too large & unwieldy, into more manageable Districts, we doubt not your Influence & Weight will be given. From the Deficiencies of the Counties observable in the last State of the publick Accounts, it is too evident, that, in this Respect, the Firmness & Vigour is wanting which the Nature of the Service demands. It has been remarked, & we believe pretty justly, that Persons are selected for Commissioners, Assessors, &c., whose principal Recommendation has been an Easiness, perhaps an Indolence, of Disposition—or what is equally dangerous, a vicious Spirit of popularity, which gratifies itself at the Expence of the publick. But with the best Talents & Intentions, it is to be feared that, unless the

Business can be reduced to a smaller Compass, it will be beyond the Reach of present Management; & that it must be divided & simplified, & candidly as well as vigorously supported by Persons of Weight, however differing on other Points, before it can attain that Perfection so much desired, & so necessary to support our Independance.

I am, Sir, with due Respect & Esteem,
Your Ob^t Hble. Servt.

Indorsed,
July 27, 1781.

REV. PETER MILLER TO SECRETARY MATLACK, 1781.

Respected Sir,

After having received His Excellency's Letter, concerning John Rein,* together with the Resolve of the Committee, I communicated the same to said Rein, which, being advised by his English Friends, that delivering himself up might endanger his life, was scrupulous what step to take. Whoever he desired me, to write in his Behalf to Esquire Attlee, which I did, and communicated to Him His Excellency's Letter and the Resolve, who answered, that he hopeth said Rein might have all Indulgence consistent with the Acts: this left said Rein so much in the Dark, that he did postpone delivering himself to a more convenient Time. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the Mode of Proceedings, neither do I know whether the Power is lodged in the Supreme Council, as in the Governors before the Revolution, to pardon such, which by Acts have forfeited their Lives and therefore would I not do any Thing to risque the poor Man's life. For if he must stand his Trial, before he receives Pardon, and has, as supposed, secret Enemies, his situation will be critical in a Time, where Party Zeal is come to the highest Pitch, and Perjury accounted a trivial Thing. One of our Brethren lately by a Guard was brought before the Colonell at York-Town; when instantly appeared a Soldier, offering to swear, that the Brother hath cursed the Congress, and might not the same happen, with him, should he stand his Trial. I have thought his Case was similar to Michael Wittman's who received Pardon without a previous Trial. If there is any Probability, Sir, that he should participate of the same clemency, he will without Hesitation surrender himself, and I doubt not, but a great many respectable Freeholders of our County will instantly petition for his pardon, as I am convinced his Pardon will meet with a general Applause, for he has done every Thing, that would recommend him to the Favours of Government. But should he be obliged to stand his Trial, and also come in Danger of Life, I shall decline to meddle with the matter, for Fear it might draw upon me Blood-guilt, except the Confidence

* See Vol. XIII., p. 606.

which I humbly nurish in my Breast towards His Excellency the President and Council, is corroborated by some means: and I leave it to you to lay this Letter before Him, together with my humble Respect, if you think it proper.

Nothing else, but an Inclination to assist the Distressed in those Times of public Calamity made me to embark in this matter, which also will plead for me, if I have not taken the proper Step. What I have done here, is on the repeated Desire of the poor man, and has no Tendency to have a cathegorrical Answer; whoever a few favourable Lines addressed to Mr John Wister, would enable me to advise him, to surrender himself without farther Hesitation. I have nothing more to add, but that I wish all your public Councils might be crowned with success by Him, whose Mercy will at last triumph over all our Adversities.

I remain respected Sir,
your humble Friend,
PETER MILLER.

Ephrata, the 27th
of July, 1781.

Directed,
To Timothy Matlack, Esquire, Philadelphia.

ANSWER OF SEC'Y MATLACK TO PETER MILLER, 1781.

Philad^a, August 1, 1781.

My Good friend,

Your letter of the 27th of July came to my hand last evening. It has laid me under some difficulty to determine what to do in the case, as it is certainly highly improper for you or any other citizen to hold any kind of conference or correspondence with an attainted Traitor; which by your letter is, if not expressed, at least very strongly implied that you have done. My knowledge of your character and conduct leaves me no doubt of the uprightness of your intention in this business; but had it been otherwise, very strong suspicions to your disadvantage would certainly have arisen from your letter. If Rein is in your county it is the duty of those who know where he is to give notice thereof to the Sheriff and the unquestionable duty of the Sheriff immediately thereupon to arrest and confine him.

As to the question contained in your letter whether the President & Council have power to pardon &c. there cannot be a doubt but that they have full power to grant pardons in all cases whatsoever except in cases of impeachment; and in cases of Treason, & murder have power to grant reprieves, but not to pardon until the end of the next Session of Assembly. Your idea therefore of a pardon to

an attainted person not yet surrendered cannot be admitted in any case. Indeed, it is so absolutely inconsistent with the dignity of Government to make terms with a Criminal, in order to induce him to surrender, that I would not, in any case, even mention it to Council, as an object of their consideration. I should even doubt whether I could be justified in Receiving a petition from Rein & Present it to Council until he should have surrendered himself. Whether he has or has not ground to expect a pardon upon a surrender, is not a subject for me to judge of, or give the most distant hint concerning. Witman did not receive a pardon previous to a surrender.

I thank you for your kind wishes in favour of the Councils of Government and assure you that I shall be ready on all occasions to render you any service in my power either as Secretary of the Council or as your affectionate and real Friend & Servant.

T. M.

Dorsey Pentecost to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Washington County, July 27th, 1781.

Sir,

I am now in General Clarke's Camp, about three miles below Fort Pitt, and am about to leave this Country on the Expedition, under that Gentleman's Command, & from some recent Transactions that have happened here, & being apprised of some unwarrantable Representations that have, and are about to be made to your Excellency in Council, respecting the Common Welfare of this Country, & in which my Life, Property, &, consequently, my Character is concerned, & not being able (owing to my immediate Service in the Public,) to attend so soon as I would wish at Philadelphia, have taken the Liberty to trouble your Excellency with the following plain State of Facts.

This Country (I mean West of the Monongalia River,) has ever been considered by a majority of its Inhabitants to be within the State of Virginia; it has been under that Jurisdiction without Controversy since the year 1774, but on the Publication of the Agreement made between the Commissioners for the two States, Virginia & Pensilvania, at Baltimore, 1779, and a Report immediately following that the Line should be run without Procrastination in Consequence thereof: this produced a Relaxation amongst the Officers (particularly in the Military Line,) knowing that such an Agreement would include the Whole, or nearly so, of Yohogania County, and by that means the whole Country was thrown into perfect Anarchy & Confusion. The Indians through the Course of the last Summer were exceedingly troublesome, & butchered up many of the defenceless Frontiers; myself and some others apprehending early Visits from them this Spring, and knowing the con-

fused Situation of the People from the Reasons above mentioned, went personally to the Frontier Settlements, & found them in the greatest Dejection of Spirits; they expected nothing but Desolation & all the Cruelty to be feared from an extensive Combination of Savages (this was the latter Part of the Winter). At our Return We advertised a meeting of the Principal People to endeavour to fall on some Plan for the Defence of those helpless Persons (the Frontiers); accordingly a number of Gentlemen met, and We then recommended that every District, as they then stood, should choose two men out of each, to form a General Committee for that Purpose; that was also accordingly done. We then proceeded to direct (with the acquiescence of the People) to raise by Hire 100 men, to be stationed and employed as aforesaid; this alarmed the Pockets of some Gentlemen (notwithstanding We advised as our Opinion that Government would countenance the measure whenever it should be established, & the men allowed Militia pay,); they therefore opposed the measures—published Pieces (or at least a Piece) setting forth the Enormity of the Expence, the Impropriety of the attempt, with many other unwarrantable assertions—in short, Sir, the Piece was inflammatory, alarming, & decorated with Falsehood.

This impeded the good Intent of the Committee, but did not quite frustrate their honest endeavours, for the Commanding officers at Fort Pitt not only countenanced but gave every Spur to facilitate so laudable a measure. We hired thirty men, sent them to the Frontiers, and they are there yet.

About this Time the Spring Session met, and a certain James Marshall,* (a Person of Yesterday amongst us,) a Frontier Inhabitant, & a member of Committee, went Home from one of the meetings, prepared a Petition to the Assemby, went to a few of the Frontier Companies who were in the greatest Distress: he flattered them that he would procure from the Assembly immediate Succour for them; they agreed to the Proposal, and gave him Money of Convoy, & sent him to Philadelphia. At his Return he brought the Act of Assembly creating that Part of Westmoreland lying West of the Monongalia into a Separate County by the name of Washington, & for himself three Commissions, Lieutenant, Recorder, & Register for said County; and in that Act of Assembly, on his (Mr. Marshall's) or some of his Friend's Representation, a Sett of men were appointed, who all (except Capt. Swearingan & Mr. D. Leet,) are Strangers to the Country, being Gentlemen that have but recently come among us.

While Mr. Marshall was at Philadelphia, Genl. Clark came here with an Intent to carry an Expedition against the Savages, which was principally intended to have been aided by Volunteers from this County. He consulted myself with many others on the most probable Plan for Success. Every Effort was tried, but to no effect;

* See page 192.

the Frontiers were murdered every Day, & the Militia could not be got out. The Field Officers for Yohogania County called on me, & requested that I would take the Command of the same, & endeavour to save it from utter Destruction. I accordingly swore into a Commission for that Purpose, which had been in the County upwards of a Year, & which I had neglected to qualify to on account of the apparent Probability there was for a Change of Government.

Soon after this, Genl. Clark had a meeting of the Principal People to consult on the most Plausible Plan to raise the Militia for his Expedition. They, after long Deliberation, Resolved, that nothing could effect so desirable a Plan, save my Exertions as County Lieu^t of Yohogania, and in the most pointed Terms (in an address to me) requested that I would put my Command in Force, and use every Exertion to facilitate the Expedition. The Day following I was furnished with a Demand from Genl. Clark for the Quota of the County. I went into the Business with Resolution, conducted myself with a steady Firmness, and with a great Deal of Fatigue, Trouble, & Perplexity, have accomplished that Business and the Militia are now encampt.

This has been the Part that I have acted from the Principle only of saving this unhappy Country from the inevitable ruin with which it is threatened, though my Conduct has been miscontrued by Mr. Marshall and his adherents, as intended only to oppose the authority of the State of Pennsylvania, on account of my bearing some considerable Commissions in the other State. And here I beg Leave to inform you, Sir, (whatever you may have heard to the contrary) that Commissions & Command were never Objects that gave me one moment's Uneasiness, and it's a matter of total Indifference to me who doth the Public Business, so it is well done, and a *man* in office acquainted with the *Bonum Publicum*. And I would further inform you that every Office that I have filled, I undertook from a Principle of serving the Public with my utmost abilities and Industry.

I am conscious of the Rectitude of my Intentions, and I scorn the Censures of discontented Partisans; I have always been vigilant to effect the Business I have engaged in, and have generally succeeded to their mortification with advantage to the Public.

It may not be amiss to let your Excellency in Council know that I waited on Mr. Marshall as soon as I heard of his Return from Philadelphia, & the Office he was to fill whenever the County should be established, & offered that if he could or would undertake to regulate the Militia, protect the Frontiers, & afford Genl. Clark Assistance I was ready to retire, but that, I apprehended, it was totally out of his Power untill the Line of Division between the States was run, & that the People could be assured that they were on a permanent Footing, and whether the Errors and Impositions heretofore practised on us, on account of the Territorial Dispute, would not rather be augmented than abated;—upon the whole,

whether it would not be best to desist from the Exercise of his Office as County Lieutenant untill the Line was run, or the authority of Pennslvania regularly extended; to these Propositions he gave the following catagorical answer: "that he was determined to support the Honour and Dignity of an officer, & he meant immediately to organize his militia."

And he accordingly did all he could to perplex the People, and advised them to pay no obedience to Draughts that I had ordered for Genl. Clark's assistance, & has actually offered Protection to some of 'em, though he before on a Request of Genl. Clark's, declared he cou'd do nothing as an officer, wish'd well to the Expedition, & as a Private Person would give every assistance to promote it.

I am sorry I am obliged to take notice to y^r Excellency of the Conduct of any man in office, & who ought to support the Character of a Gentleman; but when We take a retrospective View of the Conduct of this man, & the Favour he has sustained from Government, I really am alarmed; for, Sir, a Man that came among us but the other Day, & who went on the People's money to Philadelphia, to do their Business, to be appointed to so many different offices, (and which the People West of the Monongalia River, over whom he resides, did not know was to be given at that Time,) crammed down the Throats of the People, over the Backs of old officers whose Characters are unexceptionable, must be thought harsh by those it affects.

And if there were no other Complaints to be made, the bestowing so many offices on one man, though he was the best in Christendom, is a great Defect, and, in my opinion, derogatory to the Interest of the Public, & the maxims of sound Policy; for a man possessed of but one Imployment is much more capable of acquitting himself well in it, because Business is attended to with more Care & Assiduity, & sooner with more Ease dispatched. The Welfare of the Community requires that Places of Preferment should be as much as possible distributed. This would excite Emulation amongst men of merit, but the bestowing too much on one man is too apt to dazzle him; he is boy'd up, & often carried beyond the medium of his Reason, and it fills the People with Jealousies, Discontents and murmurs.

There is one Circumstance more I would wish to mention, & that is—The Act of Assembly directs that the Elections to be made for Justices should be held on the 15th inst., (this was the Sabbath,); the Day following, I am told, was the Day advertised, however, so obscurely that few, very few, knew of the Day or Place as will appear by the Number of Votes—not one Third of the People knew or attended the Election; by this means an obscure sett of men, perfectly unacquainted with Business will be Returned for Justices. I tremble at the Consequence; I shudder at the Event, & lament the Situation of the poor People of this Country. I wish most sin-

early that your Excellency knew the true State of Affairs here, & had it in your Power to rectify the abuse offered the honest People of this Country.

I am come now, Sir, to apologise for this Letter, & have nothing to offer in my Defence, although I confess the Liberty I have taken greatly needs an apology, save that I am about to leave this Country on the Expedition, & shall not have it in my Power to confront in Behalf of the People the insulting abuses here offered them. I am bursting with anxiety for the Welfare of this infant Country, and could not consistent with what I conceive to be my Duty suffer such a Career of Iniquity to go on with the Rapidity it now doth without letting the Supreme Executive Council of this State know something of it, and for which Presumption I beg Excuse for, Sir,

Your Excellency's Devoted
& most obedient H'ble Servt,

DORSEY PENTECOST.

Joseph Reed, Esq.

Wm. Scott to Pres. Reed, 1781.

York, July 28th, 1781.

Sir,

Agreeable to your Excellenceys Orders I have Found a place for the Convention Troops to encamp: about four Miles and an half to the Eastward of York Town which Col. Wood approved of as a convenient and suitable Place. I have also call^d the fourth Class of the Militia who have furnished upwards of one hundred Men. Col. Wood is of opinion it will require near double that number untill the necessary works on the encampment are erected.

I have collected all the Arms in York and McCalesters Town which are not half enough for the Guards. Therefore have to request of the Honourable Council to Send us Arms & amunition for the use of the Guards aforesaid.

The Arms which our seven Months carried to Philadelphia last year (forty three in number,) were delivered up in a House near the Bridge on Water street where Cloathing and other Military Stores where then kept, but no receipts pass^d for them that I can finde.

Col. Wood has call^d on me for ten or twelve Carpenters and for axes, spades, Pick and Shovels, for Building the Huts and Piquets. The Carpenters and the smiths who make The Tools looke to me for their pay, have therefore to beg your Excellency's directions in this

matter, whether it is a County or Continental Charge and how and when these People are to be Paid and by whome.

I am prepareing all my Publick acc^ts and shall lay them before the Honnourable Council towards the end of next Month.

I am Sir

your Excellencey's

very obedient

Humble ser^t,

Wm SCOTT.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President in Council, Philadelphia.

Gen. Washington to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Head Quarters, near Dobbs Ferry, 28th July, 1781.

Sir,

I have been honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 18th inst.* and observe with much Pleasure the Train into which the recruit^s the proposed Rifle Corps is thrown & hope they will soon be obtained.

As this Body of men will be exceedingly essential to our Designs & may be very usefully employed in Detachments, I have to beg of your Excellency that you will be pleased to give Orders, that as fast as they are recruited, they may be marched off to this Camp in small Parties from twenty to thirty in a Party, as they are collected with proper officers to conduct the Parties; in this mode our operations may not be delayed by waiting for the whole Corps to be compleated before we receive the Benefit of their Services.

I am rejoiced to be informed the Prospects you have for filling the Line of your Continental Troops and most sincerely hope your success may be equal to your most sanguine Expectations.

The inclosed Letter for Maj^r Parr, is left open for your Excellency's observation & is recomended to your particular Care to be forwarded.

I have the Honor to be

With the most sincere Respect & Esteem

Your Excellency's most obedient and

humble Servant,

G^o WASHINGTON.

Directed,

His Excellency, President Reed.

* See page 293.

Pres. Reed to Col. Moylan, 1781.

Sir,

With Respect to the Appointment of four new Lieutenants in your Regim^t the Council have every possible Inclination to comply with any Request you may make & which the Service requires, But upon looking over the Arrangement printed last Winter we find the number of officers amount to 15, By the Accounts we have of the strength of the Regim^t it is stated to us at 80; We would therefore wish you to consider whether it will not be most conducive to the public Good to defer the Appointment of new officers 'till the Regiment is farther compleated. Your own Discernment & Observation make it unnecessary to remark that it is with the utmost Difficulty we can support the Officers in Service & that our Abilities fall far short of our Wishes to supply them with the Articles necessary for their Appearance & Comfort agreeable to their Rank and Merits, that adding to them unless in Case of absolute Necessity leaves so much the less for those who are already fixed in the service and that this Observation applies more strongly at this Time than ever, as we fear we shall be disappointed in the Supplies expected from abroad & in which we placed a very considerable Dependance.

I am with much Esteem Sir

Your obed. Hble serv.

Directed,

Col. Moylan, or in his absence, Lt. Col. Temple of the Regt. of Dragoons.

Pres. Reed to Charles Hall, 1781.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 19th Inst.* was duly received & laid before the Council, & your Letters of the 8th Feb. & 26th May therein alluded to were at the same Time considered. With Respect to the Estate of Ruby, supposed to be escheated to the Common Wealth. Mr. Hubley had sent us a very exact State of the Matter, but as he observed at the same Time he appeared as Counsel for the Claimaint, the Board was of Opinion it would have the appearance of an ex parte Determination to give any Order therein until it was stated by the Magistrates to whom I have written, & when their Report is received we shall give Directions respecting it. We are obliged to you for your Care & Attention in this as well as other Matters under your Observation & on which I shall now communicate the Sence of the Board respectively. The Affair of the Indian Town was first suggested to us from Lancaster—we desired the Commissioners of the County to make some Inquiry respecting it. We also wrote to

* See page 294.

Judge Atlee, who took some Pains to inquire into it & wrote to us on the Subject. Since that Time we have been able to get no farther Light. Musser promised he would lay his Papers before us or the Law Officers of the State, but he did not do it. Since that Mr. Parr has appeared & been urgent for a Relinquishment of the Claim. We are of Opinion that the Question will entirely depend on the Grant made by the Penn Family to the Indians. The Purchasers under Mr. Penn say it was only a Permission to reside—others contend it was a real Grant to them, & the Conveyance taken at Fort Stanwix by Mr. Penn from the Indians there in 1768, countenances the latter Opinion. Mr. Parr says this Deed is lost, having been delivered by Adam Reigart to McKee, who served the Enemy. You will do well therefore to endeavour to ascertain as far as can be the Nature of this Conveyance by those who have read it, for we cannot learn there is any Record of it unless in Mr. Hubley's Office. If we cannot obtain farther Proof than at present it seems rather more probable that the Title under Mr. Penn will take Effect. We do not mean to give the Purchasers any unnecessary Trouble, on the other hand we would not weakly or rashly surrender the Rights of the State.

Kearsley's Estate is very specially circumstanced. His Children were not born in Wedlock, so that though they have joined the Enemy nothing would be gained by attainting them unless we could find his Will, which we have Reason to believe was made but is now concealed from us. His Death was before the Attainder, so that nothing vested in the State from his Mal Conduct. It is proposed to get the Assembly to pass some Law to vest these Estates or at least the Care of them in the Agents, & there I believe this Matter must rest at present. The land adjoining Ranken's Ferry & the Ferry seem to be so encumbered that Council think it best to leave them in their present Situation. And the Gravel Island also as beneath Notice from its small value.

The Agreement between Byers & Reem seems to us to convey the Estate too clearly to admit of a Contest if Reem insists upon his Bargain, we therefore think it will be proper for you to call on him for the Money in Specie as a Debt due to the State with Interest, a special Receipt from you in Consequence stating the Transaction, will we apprehend give Reem a Title without the Expence of a new Sale, which from the Depreciation Certificates may be attended with Difficulties.

Your Proceedings in Abraham Barr's Estate seem very proper—the Commonwealth now stands in his Place & will have a Right to the distribution Share of the Estate of the Father, it will be best to give a Fee to some Gentlemen of the Law to bring the Matter to a Conclusion.

We would now mention to you the Necessity of making a new Sale for Form Sake of Christian Vought's House at Lancaster, in order to make a Title to Mr. Graff, who bought it at a former Sale

& has paid the Money. In this Case all that will be necessary will be a bare Compliance with the Law & guarding against any Inconveniencies which may arise from Persons bidding under Depreciation Certificates. This man was attainted under a wrong Name, & Mr. Graff's Title would have been defective. This is now altered, & the Time of his Surrender being expired the Sale may very properly be made. If you should think any Difficulties will arise from the Depreciation Certificates, you will let us know before you proceed farther.

I am, &c.

P. S. Since writing the above we have received a Letter from the Justices on Ruby's Estate & shall take Order therein.

Pres. Reed to Robert Levers, 1781.

Sir

Your Letter of the 13th Inst.* came safely to Hand & was laid before the Council. We approve of your Exertions in calling out the Militia, & hope you will be able to effect their Supply untill it is in our Power from the Taxes to procure Provisions for them in a fixed Mode. We shall faithfully ratify any Engagements on the Subject you make if the Prices are reasonable, but we hope Advantage will not be taken of the publick Distress to make up extravagant Charges to be paid in hard Money. We are pleased with the Alacrity with which you have attended to the Business of your Appointmt, & especially your going in Person to the Frontiers, as we are persuaded it will have good Effects. That we may strengthen you as much as possible we have sent you the Order for calling out a succeeding Class agreeable to your Request.

With Respect to Expresses it has been customary here to procure Horses from the Quarter Master occasionally, & I have wrote to Mr. Weiss on the Subject—but would want you to use it as little as possible, & only in Case of great Necessity.

I am, Sir, with much Esteem,

your Obed. Hb. Serv.

Orders to President of Quarter Sessions, 1781.

Council Chamber, Philad^a, July 31, 1781.

Gentlemen:

The Council have received a Note from Col Miles, signifying that the Magistrates decline giving him their Assistance in quartering the unfortunate Strangers from Carolina agreeable to a Requisition of Congress & the Resolve of this Board. We apprehend there must be some Mistake, as we cannot suppose the Propriety & Duty

* See page 275.

of the Magistrates directing this Business could be overlook'd or neglected by them, & especially in a Case where Humanity & Gratitude are so much concerned. It is therefore our express Desire & Direction that you give Col. Miles the Aid of the civil Authority in this Case, & you may depend upon all necessary Aid & Support from this Board in your Compliance with this Request.

I am, Gent.,

your Obed. Serv.

Directed,

To Plunket Fleesen, Esqr., President of Q. Sessions of the peace &c.

Pres. Reed to Col. Sam. Miles, 1781.

Sir,

The Colonels Lanroy & Cambray have sent us your Note informing them that the civil magistrates will not enforce the Billet you have given them. We cannot but hope that they have not seen our Resolve or are under some Misapprehension of the Matter have therefore wrote to them on the Subject addressed to Mr Fleesen President of the Court. In a Case of this Nature wherein the Claims of Humanity, Society & Gratitude are so just & reasonable we cannot but flatter ourselves that you will endeavour in the Line of your Duty to accommodate them as speedily as possible. But if they make farther Difficulties we desire you to consider our Resolve of the Inst. as containing sufficient Authority for that Purpose & giving you the Aid & Support of the Civil Magistrates which we are satisfied it clearly does, & therefore desire you to proceed accordingly.

I am, Sir,

your obed.

Indorsed,

July 31st, 1781.

Thomas Scott to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Washington County, July 31st, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I expect this will be handed you by a messenger from this county with the returns of our elections for Justices of the peace which affords me an opertunity of acknowledging with Gratitude the receipt of the commission with which Council is pleased to honour me in this county: and also of requesting that in order to make my business perfectly convenient and the more capable of Imploying my

whole attention, Council be further pleased to Grant me a commission of Justice in the Common Pleas, Clark of the Orphans Court, and of the Quarter Session, which last hath sometimes been Granted to one on the court's recommendation of several; but as this mode would leave the Sessions for some time without a Clark and apears unknown in our present constitution, I have thought this application not Irregular, and realy necessary.

I am also honoured with your Excellencies favour by Mr Perry, and Mr Hays hath shewed me a letter from Council with an account of Mr Doncan's Resignation and a desire of his and my recommendation of one in his room; But in truth, Good sir, men so often disapoint our expectations in point of fidelity and the money is so totally falen into disuse in this part of the Country that we have not been able as yet, to lay our hand on the proper Carrectar.

Whatever may be the end of Gen Clarks expedition, his preparations for it have been greatly Injurious to the Interests of Pennsylvania in this country and hyghly opressive and abuseive to many Individuals well affected to this Government. He hath made use of a papor (whereof the Inclosed is said to be a Copy,) as authority for exercising a strange, very extraordinary and most arbitary Jurisdiction over those who have formerly been subject to Virginia, no matter where they live or whether they were subject by force or of free will, which papar and others of the same kind, and his and his parties proceedings in Consequence thereof hath contributed not a little to the prevention of the proper organization of Washington County and regulation of the militia of Westmoreland.

A sense of duty constrains me just to mention this matter, the particulars are numerous, and horid some of which its like will be given you by Col Marshall; but I am convinced the Instances of high Treason against the state are not less than forty.

I have the honor to be
your Excellencies most obedient
and very humble Servt.,
THO. SCOTT.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

℘ Mr Wherry.

Col. Wm. Coats to Council, 1781.

To the Honarable the Supreme Executive Councill of the State of Pensylvania.

Gentlemen,

From the frequent and dayly applycations maid to me and the Sub-Lieutenants of the County on Account of the pay that is due to the men that serv'd seven months, I am under the Nesessity of

applying again to Council for their directions as I am informed by the Sub-Lieutenants that a number of the men have offered to Inlist for Eighteen months, if they can receive their pay for their last searvise; As the men was received and enters the service by the Lieutenants they in consequence look up to us for redress, this application is maid at the Joint request of the Sub-Lieutenants it is earnestly requested that Council will take it under their serious consideration and give such orders as they may think proper.

I have the Honour to Remain

The Councills most obedient Humble Servant,

Wm COATS, Lieutenant C. P.

Philad^a, July 31st, 1781.

Directed,

To The Honorable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Sec'y Matlack to Col. Jacob Morgan, 1781.

Philadelphia, August 1, 1781.

Sir,

His Excellency the President & Council Order me to transmit to you the inclosed two letters,* one from W^m McCalla, Commissary of Purchases for Bucks County, & One from Robert Blair, Assistant Commissary of Issues; And to request that you will transmit to Robert Morris, Esq., a return of the provisions on hand, and take his direction to whom to deliver it. Should you not have it in your power to make the return, you will immediately write to M^r McCalla, and obtain from him such information as may enable you to do it.

You will see that no delay can be admitted, and that immediate attention ought to be given to this business.

I am, respectfully,

your very humble servant,

T. M., Sec'y.

To Coll. Jacob Morgan.

Matthew McConnell, A. T. M., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

May it please your Excellency:

I have examined the different Rooms in the Barracks, and could not discover that any material damage has been done lately, more than some few Bedsteads broke by the drunken Soldiery on their going away—and have given Orders to Captain Cooper & Serjeants to have the Bedsteads, Benches, and all other Articles, safely Stored,

* Not found.

and all the Soldiers and Women safely removed into one Wing, and the empty Rooms shut up. The Men are in great want of Wood to cook with, not having received any for some time, and if not soon supplyed it will be difficult to restrain them from doing mischief.

There is at present no Guard mounted in the Barracks but that of the Militia, consisting of a Sergeant, Corpl., and Nine privates, furnishing three Sentries, Viz.: One at the Guard Room and two at Magazines—If that Guard could be Augmented to twelve Men, they could then plant a Sentinel at each of the Avenues leading into the Barracks, which, with proper Orders, would keep the Soldiery in Awe, and prevent Straglers from doing Mischief in the Night.

I have the Honour to be, with due respect,
Your Excellency's
most obedient humble Servt,
MW. McCONNELL,
Act'g T. Major.

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire.
Indorsed,—August 2, 1781.

F. Johnston, &c., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadª, August 2, 1781.

We beg leave to inform your Excellency and the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council, that two Months have elapsed since we purchased, in Company with divers other Officers, a number of Places which were sold in the County of Chester, by the Agents of Confiscated Estates for that County—that we have paid the purchase Money and received receipts, but have not been able to obtain Deeds for the same, because the Agents have neglected to furnish us with such Descriptions in our receipts, or your Honorable Body with returns of survey, on which we should have been enabled to have the Conveyances drawn.

We therefore pray that your Excellency and the Honorable Council will be pleased to direct the Agents to make immediate returns of survey to your Honorable Body, that the Purchasers may no longer be deprived of the necessary means of procuring Deeds for the different Estates.

We have the honor to be,
with the greatest respect,
your most Obt and Hble. Servants,
FRANCIS JOHNSTON,
JAS. PARR,
JAMES HUTCHINSON,
ANDREW PORTER.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, & The Honorable The Supreme Executive Council.

Col. James Wood to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, 2d August, 1781.

Sir,

On Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 19th ultimo, I Immediately fixed on a situation for Huting the German Troops, on the Lines between Daniel Hiester and the Hives of one Bowers, in order to make it as little injurious as Possible to either. With the Assistance of Colo Eckert I procured as many Tools as will answer the Purpose, and set the Troops to work on their Huts. My meaning in having a Superintendant appointed, was, that he should be a workman acquainted with Building, to Direct that the Huts should be regularly built in such a manner as to be useful on any future occasion, and to have the Charge of the Public Tools. I mentioned this matter to the Quarter Master before I wrote on the subject, supposing that some one in his Department might be spared to do this Temporary Duty; but he having declined Complying with my requisition, occasioned my Troubling your Excellency with it. I have since Prevailed on one of the militia officers on Duty to overlook and Direct the work. I have fixed the British Troops on good Ground (the Property of a non Juror) between York and Susquehanna, so as to be Very Convenient to throw them across the river on any Emergency.

I have the Honor to be,

with Great respect and Esteem, Sir,

Yr Excellency's Very Obt Servt,

JAMES WOOD.

Directed,—Public Service.

His Excellency President Reed, Philadelphia.

Commissioners of Taxes of Philadelpha County, to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To His Excellency, the President, and the Honourable, the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

Upon examining the Classes, as classed by a late Act of Assembly, for compleating the Quota of the Fœderal Army, we found such alterations in property, mistakes in the late Assessments, since rectified, and allowances for public Lots laid open, &c., that in order to do equal Justice to the Classes it was necessary to form them anew, which we did with the utmost diligence and attention; this took up several days, which Council, we presume, could not have taken into consideration when they fixed the time for us to make the Returns; as the Classes were ready, we sent them out to the respective Townships, Wards and Districts; the times for all the Classes to report to the Assessors is nearly out, and we hope in a few Days shall be able to

make Return to your Honourable Board, of the State of all the Classes in this City and County, when it will be expected the Commissioners and Assessors should proceed to inlist Men for the delinquent Classes to Recruit the Pennsylvania Line, as required by a late Law for that purpose, passed in Philadelphia, the 25th June, 1781. We have had a meeting with the City and District Assessors, who all expressed a readiness to do every thing in their power to forward the Service expected from them, provided they could be supplied with Money to pay the Recruits, which the Law has made no provision for, otherways than by levying it on the Classes some time after the Inlistment; here was a difficulty that we knew not how to get over; the advancing Money by the Commissioners and Assessors was mentioned, but laid aside as unreasonable, if practicable; it was then a question whether a sufficient Sum might be borrowed from private persons to begin the business, but this, for several reasons, was thought impracticable in present circumstances; on the whole it was concluded to refer the Matter to Council for their advice and direction, since which we have thought, that if the Commissioners and Assessors could be safe in doing it, there might be a sufficient sum assessed on each of the delinquent Classes, (suppose twenty Pounds) which shall be Collected and paid into the hands of a Treasurer, or Treasurers, for the purpose of Recruiting the Pennsylvania Line, and for no other purpose whatsoever. That proper Persons might be appointed in the City and County to procure Recruits, get them attested, and deliver them to the proper officers, who should be paid for every such recruit (suppose) eighteen Pounds seven shillings and six pence, the surplus to pay necessary expences.

We have consulted a considerable Number of the Inhabitants in the City and County, who generally approve of this plan, and think the Men might be procured for the above Sum, when they knew no more wou'd be given, who are now expecting large sums from the Classes, some of which have given extravagant Bounties to Recruits; a strict attention to the direction of the Act last referred to will be attended with other difficulties than is mentioned above, which will readily occur to Council, such as the slowness of its operation, or if different sums is given to Recruits, how to apply them to the Classes without giving offence to such as have most to pay, &c. We shall be much obliged to Council for their advice and direction in the premises, which may, perhaps, relieve us in present imbarrisment, and put it in our power to prosecute this important Business with vigour to effect, which we are very desirous to do without a moments delay.

Philada., August 3d, 1781.

We are, Gentlemen;

Your most obed. and very Humb. Servts.,

JOHN BROOKE,
GUNNING BEDFORD, } Commissioners.

Directed,—His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, &c., &c.

Wm. Hammel to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To the Honorable, the President and Council.

Your Honors will please to Grant me the following suplys in Case I take Charge of the two forts belonging to the public, that is, Billings port & Mud Island, viz.t.,

1. You will find men to put them in Good repair.

2. You will Grant men when Necessary, as above.

3. You will please to Grant me a House in Each place for myself and family to live in.

4. You will Grant me Fifty Acres of good land, under Good Fence, at Billingsport, for my own use, and the other benefits arising therefrom.

5. You will find boats for the use of both places, with men to work the same from fort to fort, as Ocasion may require.

6. You will please to Grant men to repair the banks when any breach may hapen by floods or any other way.

7. You will find the men in mate & Drink, & reasonable wages; by your orders I will Imploy the men, likewise you will find the men in all Necessary Tools that they may want on the Ocasion.

8. You will Give me Sixty pounds ℔ year, to help to Suport my family, for my services, with one Quarter in hand paid.

Your Humble Sert.,

WILLIAM HAMELL.

Philadelphia, August 3d, 1781.

Capt. Thomas Stokely to Pres. Reed 1781.

Westmorelan County, August 4th, 1781.

Honoured Sir,

Being Just now under Command of Colonel Archibald Lochry on our March into the Indian Country, I would wish to acquaint your Excellency of my past Proceedings and of some difficulty which have attended me in the Recruiting service.

I Received My Commission as I Informed your Excellency by Colonel Perry but obtained no Money until Colonel Hays came up, and State Money was at that Time much undervalued, It still continued To depreciate and was for some time almost Entirely out of Circulation. But it appears to revive a little, Passing with some at the exchange of five and some six Pounds for one of Hard Money. It has been a very considerable detriment to me in Enlisting Men, We made a very good Hand for some Weeks at first but the obstruction of the Currency has Quite disabled Me from raising the Number of Men I expected agreeable to my Recruiting Instructions.

We have Enlisted thirty Eight very good Men but they are all Exceeding bare of Cloathing I hope your Excellency will grant them a Supply as soon as Possible, and if as many Suits of Cloaths could be obtained as it is Intended there should be Men in the Company, It would be the greatest Encouragment that could be given to have a suit of Cloaths to give Men at their Enlistment. If we had this and a circulating Currency I should not be under the least apprehensions but that I could have my Company full in a few Weeks. I hope to make some Proficiency in the recruiting way on this Campaign as there is a number of volunteers that may be likely to Enlist.

I would farther acquaint your Excellency of our Distressed Situation on account of Provision. We have neither Commissary nor Magazine, and have only been supplyed with Flour all this summer Though the Men have been Kept on strict Duty from their Enlistments.

I am your Excellency's,
most obedient and very humble Servant.
THO. STOKELY, Capt.

P. S. Mr. Cooper the Gentlemen of whom I wrote before has been of Singular Service to us in Recruiting and has been Engaged in that Service since the 24th, of April last. I hope your Excellency will allow Him the Ensignsy in my Company as I look upon Him to be the fittest for such an officer of any Gentlemen I know of.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President the Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Honoured by Mr. Cooper.

Gen. Clarke to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Weelin 4 August 1781,

Sir,

I had the pleasure of Receiving yours of 15th May but not untill the third day of July. I thank you for the favourable sentiments containd and the Requisition to this country to give all possible aid to the Enterprise I am ordered on, Had they have done so, as their Interest loudly cal'd for I believe there would have been no Reason to doubt but our most Sanguine Expectations would have been answered. But so far from compleating your wishes that part of them have taken Every step in their power to frustrate the design (at a time when their neighbours were daily massacred,) By confusing the Inhabitants and Every other device their abilities would admit of although small, are too apt to Effect the minds of such persons as Inhabit this frontier, What put it more in their power was the unsettled Territory and no orders of yours appearing, you mention you had sent by one of your members with Encouragement

for the people to Co-opperate with me in all Respects. But he appears to have taken Every step to disappoint the good Intentions of Col Lochry and many other Gentlemen of Westmorland county who have us'd Every Effort to Raise men, But disappointed by those alluded to, I have Endeavourd to make myself acquainted with the different persons who appeard to be busy in Ruining the sentiments of the Inhabitants and think it my duty as a Citizen and officer to acquaint you with the principals, Believing that you are Imposed on as those bodies gain their Influence by opposing Every measure proposed for the publick good in the military Department, strange that such Conduct should have those Effects among any class of people in This Departmt. Every commanding officer has Experienced, and I think I can Venture to say you never will be able to have any thing of Importance done in this Quarter untill many of them are Removed from their Respective offices. The Inhabitants on my arrival was so Buoyed up at the thought of my carrying out an Expedition that promised them peace that it has Required all their little artifices to disappoint, which is to too likely to be the case at present. Mr. M. of Washington County, Lt. Colos. C. and D. I believe to be the perpetratos of these Evils, I fear this country will feel after giving you my honor that I am not influenced by prejudice to point out those Gentlemen, I can assure you they are persons that will for Ever disgrace this part of the country while in power. As for Mr. M. he has, I learn, lived in Obscurity, untill lately his promotion has so confused him that his Conduct is Contradictory in his own publick writing and as wavering as the minds of that class of mortals he has had the Honour to Influence. I hope you will not suppose this to amount to a Reflection on the Honourable Council in making such appointment, from Circumstances, I believe them Imposed on, but the anxiety I have for every part of the Community, and the probability of losing the fair prospects I had of puting an End to the Indian war, Occasion me to View such Characters in in a most Dispikable light, and to make this Representation. I do not suppose I shall have any thing more to do with them, but should it be the case, and had power should take the necessary steps to teach them their duties before I went any farther. I learn that it is generally believed that the Inhabitants of the western country are Disaffected, I do not think it to be the case, and was a line between the two states Established, and the whole well officered, they might, in a short time be made Valuable Citizens, and any necessary force cal'd to the field on the shortest notice. But at present, scarcely a week passes but you hear of some massacre. Sufficient stores of necessaries provided to Enable them to Reduce the Indians, and yet those Inducements are not sufficient to draw them to action, owing to those principles before Recited.

I have the Honour to be,

Your Devoted & VeryHumble Servant,

G. CLARKE, B. G.

His Excellency, the President of Pennsylvania.

Col. Lochry to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Miraile's Mill, Westmoreland County, Augt 4th, 1781.

Honoured Sir,

Yesterday the Express arrived with your Excellency's Letters, which does singular Honour to our County to have the approbation of Council in our undertakings—and for which I beg leave to return my most Humble Thanks.

I am now on my March with Captain Stokeley's Company of Rangers and about Fifty Volunteers from this County. We shall join General Clark at Fort Henry, on the Ohio River, where His army has lay for some weeks past, as it was most Expedient to have the Boats there, the Water being deeper from that to where He intends going than From Fort Pitt there. I Expected to have had a number more Volunteers but they have by some Insinuations been hindered from going. Our Rangers have been very ill supplyed with Provisions, as there has been no possibility of Procuring Meat, particularly as our Money has not been in the best Credit—We have generally had Flour, but as I have kept the Men constantly Scouting it is hard for them to be without Meat.

We have no Issuing Commissary for this County, I Expected the Commissioner would have appointed one, but He tells me it does not belong to Him—I would have appointed one in a Temporary Manner, but as we Shall be away some time, Shall hope for your Excellency's Instructions in that matter. When Mr. Duncan, who is Commissioner for this County, and myself Considered the distance of the Stations from Each Other and from any one Place where an Issuing Magazine might be kept, we Alledged it be necessary to Affix two Issuing Stores in such a manner as one Commissary might Attend both, I think it might Answer several good purposes

Mr. Cooper, the Gentleman by whom I write, and whom I before Recommended for an Ensignsy in Captain Stokeley's Company, I hope your Excellency will Approve of, He has been always Esteemed as a very worthy while in the Continental Army, He is Acquaint with Military discipline, And is in Particular Calculated for an Officer in a Ranging Company, As he is well Acquaint with Woods and the nature of Indian fighting.

I rest these matters with your Excellency, and am

your Excellency's most Obedient

and very Humble Servant,

A. LOCHRY.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Honoured by Mr. Cooper.

Pres. Reed to Capt. Robinson, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter by Mr. Gray came safely to Hand & was duly answered, but I now find it has miscarried, and therefore it becomes necessary to repeat what I then said. With Respect to Mr. Quin the Council upon the Recommendation he brought appointed him an Ensign, but to our great Surprize we found him in Philad^a a Month afterwards, & having also understood that a Part of the Money given him to carry to the Country for the Troops & the £15 Bounty to those Men you had inlisted, was not delivered over to Mr. Gray, the Paymaster, as it should have been, I say under these Circumstances the Council recalled the Commission given him.

I hope that by this Time the Ammunition & Cloathing sent to Capt. Hambright to be forwarded to Capt. Scott at Middle Town, & from thence to Col. Hunter, has arrived safe. The Council have also complied with your Request in appointing Mr. Smith a Surgeon, but as you do not mention where he is to be found, we have not been able to forward his Appointment to him. You will observe by what I have said before that the Ass^y by a Vote directed that the Men you had enlisted before you knew the Bounty allowed to Continental Soldiers should receive the Sum you had agreed for, & Mr. Gray has directions to pay it.

We have had the greatest Difficulties imaginable in procuring the Ammunition for the Supply of the Frontiers & the Cloathing for the Men, having been obliged to borrow the Money, as the Treasury has not yet nor nor do we expect it will for some Time be supplied with Specie, which is now absolutely necessary to procure Articles of that Nature. We hope therefore that all due & prudent Care will be taken that there be no unnecessary Waste or Expenditure of what is now sent, as it is exceedingly uncertain when we shall be able to send more.

The signal Blow the Indians have received to the Northward, whereby near 90 of them and their viler Associates, the Tories, fell in one Action, & the Party totally defeated, will have a happy Effect for the Frontiers generally, but in the mean Time we rely much upon your Exertions. We observe many Complaints from the Country, & sometimes they find their Way into the News Papers: we cannot but think them very unjust with Respect to Northumberland, as the Force raised and kept there exceeds all the other Parts of the Frontiers, & the Supplies of Men, Monies & Ammunition which have been sent from Time to Time for these three Years past are much greater than is generally apprehended. However much will depend upon you & the Gentlemen in Command to apply the Force you have so as to give Satisfaction to the People. We observe that in Northampton County they have been successful in making immediate Pursuit after the Indians, having recovered the Captives

& Booty & killed some of the Party. We are very sensible of the Difficulties of an Indian Pursuit, but as any loss on their Part is so mortifying & discouraging to them, we must request that you would cherish a Spirit of this Kind in the Men, & you may be assured that every such Exertion will be duly noticed.

I am, Sir,

your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.,

J. REED.

Indorsed,
Aug. 6, 1781.

Directed,
Capt. Robinson, of the Company of Rangers.

WILLIAM ATTLEE TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lancaster, the 6th August, 1781.

Sir

Having just now some conversation with Col. Hubley respecting the militia on duty at this Post, as Guards over the Prisoners of Warr & Stores, & finding their tour of duty will expire in about two weeks, I beg leave to trouble your Excellency, to express my wishes that the duty here could be performed by the militia of the Town only or that we might at least have one Company of the Town militia always on duty, they seem to me to be much better officered than the militia from the Country & being more accustomed to duty are better qualified for keeping in order a set of artful fellows who frequently persuade some of those from the Country, as well officers as privates when on duty to let them pass from the Barracks on various pretences; by which means they get opportunities of stragling into the Country & with the assistance of the disaffected make their escape.

We have been fortunate these two last Guards in having Gentlemen at the head of the Guard who have seen service & have taken a great deal of trouble in instructing the militia, & with those from the Country are Capt Scott & a few more good officers; but as there seems a prospect of the next Guards coming chiefly from the Country & but few of the Gentlemen who 'tis expected will command them have had opportunities of knowing service, I fear the business will be done in rather a careless and unsoldierlike manner unless Council shall be of opinion that a considerable part of the Guard may be of the militia of the Town & shall be pleased to order accordingly.

Mr Hall being in Philadelphia we can do nothing towards fitting up a part of the Store-house for a Hospital untill he returns as there are public Stores there under his charge.

Capt Hambright being in my office begs me to mention that he lately wrote your Excellency giving a state of affairs in his department & wishes the honour of a Line from you, as he is apprehensive that he will be under the necessity of giving up his bargain with Mr Ross for 500 Cords of Wood purchased from him, unless he can comply with his contract with him which requires the wood to be cut & taken from the Lands in a certain time.

I am Sir with the greatest esteem

your most obedt. Servt.,

WILL. ATTLEE.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Reed to John Hambright, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 25 ult. came safely to Hand & we are obliged to you for your Care in forwarding the Ammunition & Cloathing to Northumberland. We shall be glad you would inform yourself whether it has gone forward from Middleton.

With Respect to the Hospital we are quite of opinion that such a Building is necessary but having had the Brick Store on the Hill recommended to us for this Purpose, before your Letter came to Hand we had wrote to Col. Hubley to apply it accordingly. We are sorry to find the Quarter Master's Department in such a feeble Condition as to be unable to bear the slightest Expences such as necessary Repairs & Wood. We must entreat you to apply to Col. Miles in the most earnest manner for some Assistance as it is absolutely out of our Power to give any hard money, as none has come in for Taxes & the Inhabitants of this City have been frequently called upon heretofore. We cannot but think that such a Representation from Mr Atlee & yourself stating at the same Time that the Government is not in a Condition to supply you will bring round a Grant of at least a small Part of the £300,000 given lately by the King of France to Congress. We think your mode of getting Wood the cheapest & best, but we have never yet either here or elsewhere taken upon us the Payment of the Bills or Direction of the Quarter Master's Affairs in any Part of the state, Should we begin we do not know where it would end.

So far as the Repair of the Barracks which belong to the State & have been usually repaired by the Government formerly, we should not hesitate to do it if we had the money, we do assure you that Persons in office are obliged to live as well as they can till the new Taxes are levied. We hope every one will see the Necessity of collecting them speedily & that Lancaster County especially (which is so able,)

will exert herself to recruit the Treasury, such an Exertion would be very reasonable & do great Credit to the Comissioners & the County in general.

There have been many Subscriptions, Loans, &c. in this City, we have never understood that our Friends in the Country have been called upon in this way. Such a flourishing Town as Lancaster we should hope might & that they will in a Case where Humanity & their own Comfort is concerned advance a small Sum of money when the Repayment is now become so certain & expeditious. In addition to all former Loans & Subscriptions we have now a very considerable one for the distressed Inhabitants of South Carolina who are coming over in large numbers. These Contributions are much heavier upon us than all the Taxes, Surely it is reasonable to expect that those of our Friends who have never been disturbed by the Enemy & are of Ability will help a little at such a Time. If no such temporary supply can be had we can only advise the Application I have mentioned in the same Part of this Letter & that without Loss of Time. It is not with us a Question of Will but of Ability as we should be glad to relieve you from your Difficulty as well as ease the People of Lancaster in any Matter in our Power.

I am Sir

your obed. Hble. Ser.

Pres. Reed to Lieutenants of Lancaster and York, 1781.

Sir,

By authentick Advices Congress have received from Virginia this Day, it seems almost certain, that a large Detachmt of Cornwallis's Army have moved up the Bay having Baltimore for their present apparent Object. We cannot, on this Occasion, but have Apprehensions on Account of the Prisoners, & therefore, have not only thought proper to give you the earliest Intelligence, but to request you will take all proper Precautions for their Security—& in Case of a forward Movement by the Enemy, that every Thing should be in Readiness to remove them to a place of greater Safety. We would also recommend to you the falling immediately upon suitable Measures to have the best & earliest Intelligence of the Operations of the Enemy at the Head of the Bay. The Distance does not admit of a Surprise if proper Vigilance is used; & the Consequences are of so alarming a Nature, that nothing ought to be omitted to guard against it. Should the Enemy not make any Movement in the County, it is probable that the Prisoners will desert largely if great Care is not taken.—This, therefore, tho' a secondary, is an important Consideration.

I am, &c.

Indorsed,—August 6, 1781.

SEC'Y MATLACK TO THO'S BRADFORD, 1781.

Philad^a, August ye 7, 1781.

Sir,

His Excellency the President & Council being apprehensive of many and great inconveniencies which may arise from the continuance of the Flags of Truce late from Charles Town, in South Carolina, continuing longer in this State, Order me to request that you will order those Flags down the river immediately, at least as low as to where the Trumbull Frigate now lies.

I am, with great respect,

Your most obed^t serv^t,

T. M, Sec'y.

Thos Bradford, Esq., D. Com'y Prisoners.

JOHN HART TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Bucks County, August 7th, 1781.

Sir,

Three Recruits only, for this County, are as yet delivered at Newtown in Consequence of the last Class Law, for one of which Timothy Taylor, Esqr, gave a Receipt—myself for two, as Capt. Claypoole, who should receive them, is not here. They will want Quarters, which can no otherwise be obtained here than by Billets on the Inhabitants; to grant which we have no person who thinks himself competent—Mr Taylor declining, as not being vested with special Authority for that purpose. I could wish the Honorable Council would take this Matter into Consideration.

I have received a Letter from Col^o Matlack, informing me that Council request that I would contract with some Person to find Provision for the Recruits; I have attempted so to do, but Difficulties arise by Reason that the particular Articles, neither as to Quantity or Kind, are pointed out, of which a Ration is to consist. The Person willing to undertake, wishes to know whether Vegetables, Rum, Soap, &c., are to be parts of the Allowance. Another Difficulty is the immediate want of Money, without which, in Hand, he doubts his Ability to execute the Business—as People, when they furnish any thing for the Public now, will insist for the ready Money—and he has it not of his own to advance. Fearing I trouble your Excellency & the Honorable Council about Matters of too small or too obvious a Nature, but wishing an Answer hereto,

I am Sir, your

Excellency's most obed^t & humble serv^t,

JOHN HART.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

fav^d ✠ Revd O. Hart.

Robert Levers to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Easton, August 7th, 1781.

Sir,

The Two Favours of the 31st July & the 1st August from your Excellency & the Supreme Executive Council came safe to hand, with the Amunition & flints—Every necessary direction has been given to prevent waste of Amunition, and as an excuse for the consumption thereof has been & I find now is the discharging arms when wet, in order to keep them clean, I have got a few Gun Screws made, & sent one to the officer commanding at each Post, in order that the Lead at least may be if possible saved.

Respecting the purchasing provisions for the Militia, I have recommended it most strenuously to Col. Balliet to be careful in the Prices to be offered, Beef and Mutton are generally sold here at Four Pence, Wheat at about six shillings—I am told that Wheat to be received in Jersey in Payment for Taxes, is fixed at Seven Shillings & Six Pence. The Heat of the Season will not admit the Purchase of large Cattle, as the Posts are extended, otherwise Flesh might come something lower.

On Wednesday last the Court Martial sat on the Trial of Col. Strewd, and adjourned last Saturday to meet at Capt Heller's on the 20th August next. Besides the Fair Charges included in your Excellency's Warrant, Four Others have been given in during the Sitting of the Court Martial, viz.

For abusing the Legislative Authority with contemptuous language, and speaking disrespectfully of the Supreme Executive Council.

For discouraging the Recruiting Service for defence of the Frontiers.

For Cowardice & Incapacity, when marching a Part of the Militia in Pursuit of the Indians that had attacked & killed John Lerne Senr & George Lerne his Wife & Child on the 3d July last.

For Scandalous Behaviour, in signing a Paper, unbecoming the Character of an officer and a Gentlemen.

Nathaniel Potts Esqr, Judge Advocate at the Court Martial, who is absent to attend at Lancaster & Reading Courts, desired me to apply to your Excellency for your directions as to the following Questions.

1st. How far a Militia officer is amenable to a Court Martial for his Conduct when not in actual Service?

2d. By what Regulations the Militia are governed when in actual Service & Pay of the State?

The disagreeable and indeed wretched Situation of the few Troops of the Third Pennsylva Regiment stationed at this Place, as well as the particular Request of Capt Christy Commandant, have prevailed on me to trouble your Excellency in Council with a few lines on a

subject entirely out of my line in any other way, than as bearing a proportion of each man's burden thro this Life of Woe—There are now here from the Captains Account about Thirty Rank & File. It has happened several times that the Privates have been five or six days without any Flesh meat, but it has at last grown so bad, that they have had none these last fifteen or sixteen days, inasmuch that some of them are beginning to be sick, truly for want of proper sustenance—Their officers being without money, have it not in their power to assist them. Upon my return from the Frontiers, which was last Sunday Evening, hearing of their miserable Situation, I have proposed to Capt Christy to engage for the Payment of Fourteen days Provisions, and hope to repay myself in part by a small Collection designed to be made among the Inhabitants for the purpose—Before these provisions can be expended, there can be no doubt future Provision will be made. In justice to these sufferers I must add, that as far as I have been able to inform myself, there has been no Injury offered to the Inhabitants, except a Goose now & then, & an attempt to kill a Sheep a few nights past.

In the first Charge against Col. Strowd, vizt: "Countersecting and "opposing the Lieutenants of the County & the Sub Lieutenants in "their office, & assuming upon himself the Power of stationing the "Militia ordered for the defence of the Frontiers & consulting "therein his own safety & interest to the prejudice of others more "exposed to the ravages of the enemy," the court have thought proper to confine the examination of witnesses to the time when Jacob Strowd Esquire received his commission as Lieutenant Colonel, he being so stiled in the Warrant ordering the Court Martial, whereas those who have brought the charge against him, contend that the Prisoner is amenable to the Court Martial, for every part of his conduct, under his first Commission when appointed Colonel, as this last of Lieutenant Colonel, and requested me to state the same to your Excellency.

William Raup Esquire who was chosen and Commissionated Lieut. Col. of the Second Battalion, resigned his Commission to Samuel Rea Esquire sometime last Spring of which Col. Rea says he did not inform Council—Also Capt Jacob Heller, of the same Battalion, and who is one of the Court Martial, had likewise resigned to the late Lieut. which I did not know till the Court Martial sat—Mr Heller now says he is enclined to resume his Commission—Your Excellency will please to say if he may be permitted to receive it or not.

I find myself under the necessity of troubling the Supreme Executive Council more than I could wish; but as this flows from the nature of things as they rise, and my desire of proceeding aright, I trust my excuse therefore will be admitted.

I am Sir, your Excellency's most obedient
very humble Servant,
ROBERT LEVERS.

Directed, His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr.

Henry Osborne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir.

As by the Commission of Escheator Genl. (with which I am Honoured) it don't appear that I am authorized to proceed further touching such lands &c., as may be Escheated, than taking the Inquest of Office: I conceived it to be of consequence to the State, to have the Directions of Your Honble Board respecting Escheats in General, as by preventing persons who have no known title to remain in possession of Escheats and who are not accountable to the State for Rent or Waste &c., will be enriching individuals at the public expence. I therefore submit to Your Honble Board to determine, who is to take possession of such Escheats, and by what Authority.

I have the Honour to be, Your Exc^y most Obd.
and very Hble Servt..
H. OSBORNE.

Philadelphia, 7th Aug^t, 1781.

Directed,
His Exc^y Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Pennsylvania.

Resolution of Council, 1781.

Philadelphia, August 7th, 1781.

In Council,

On Consideration Ordered, That the Escheator of the State, do take possession of such estates as may appear to be escheated to the Commonwealth; and that he be authorized to let the same for the best rent that can be obtained therefor, not exceeding the Term of one year, and that he be allowed for his trouble five per centum on the proceeds, and five per cent on the amount of Sale of such as shall be sold with reasonable charges.

Extract from the Minutes,
T. MATLACK, Sec'y.

Directed, Henry Osborne, Esqr.

Wm. Scott to Pres. Reed, 1781.

York, August 8th, 1781.

Sir,

This day I recd. your Excellency's Letter of the 6th instant, and on advising with Colonel Wood concerning the Prisoners, have Called another Class of the Militia thereby to enable the Guards the better to prevent desertion, or to remove the Prisoners to some other Place in case the Enemy should attempt comeing our way.

We have also call'd so many of the Light Horse men of the Militia as will have one station'd at every ten or twelve Miles from the head of the Bay to this Place, who are to be under the Direction of an Officer that will attend at Bush Town or some other Place as may be most Proper, and be ready to send the earliest intelligence; and as each Dragoon will have to go no further than a Horse may run in full speed, we shall have notice of the Enemy's movements in Six or Eight Hours from the time of sending off the Expresses.

We are glad to here of being supplied with arms and ammunition as we are in great want of those articles; have prevailed with Major Brook to go Express and have them forwarded immediately.

A few Swords and Pistols for Lighthorse men wou'd be very acceptable, as we have it not in our Power to Provide them here; but, however it may be, we will thankfully accept of what things soever Council may Please to send us.

I am Sir,
with due respect, your Excellency's
Very Obedient Humble servt.,
WM. SCOTT.

Directed,
On Publick service.
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President in Council, Philadelphia.

Pres. Reed to Mons. Holker, 1781.

Sir,

I send you inclosed the Remarks of the Council on the Communication you made them some time ago, which have been delayed for two Reasons:—First, The accumulated Weight of Business arising from the Dissolution & Re-establishment of the Pennsylvania Line, & the Changes which have taken Place in the Currency of the Country—with the additional Weight of regulating the Disposal of the publick Lands.

Secondly, That the Answer of Council might by Time be so divested of any undue Acrimony which the Style & Matter of your Address excited, so that it should be the Result of their deliberate & unimpassioned Judgment. And you are at Liberty to communicate it to any Person you may think proper. We consider it a pleasing Circumstance that all Restrictions on Commerce being taken off the Causes of Disatisfaction are effectually removed, & the necessity of official Intercourse proportionately diminished.

I am Sir,
Your Obed. &
very Hbbl. Ser.,
J. REED.

Indorsed, August 8th, 1781.

Lieut. James Marshal to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Washington County, 8th August, 1781.

Sr,

When I began to Organise the Militia of this County, I Expected the line between the States would have been run (at least by the Commissioners of this State) in May last; but Finding they did not arrive at neither of the periods given us to expect them, I thought it my duty to take the most favourable Opportunity that would Offer, to form the Militia. About the fifteenth of June last, I apprehended Appearances favourable, and accordingly advertised two Battalion Elections, but soon found that General Clark's preparations for his Expedition, and the Extraordinary Freedom which he and his party of the old Virginia Officers used with the people of this County, stood greatly in the way; they were Indefatigable in propigating reports of the General being a Continental Officer—having extraordinary Countenance and Authority from the State of Pennsylvania—In pulling down my Advertisements—dissuading the people from attending the Elections—Crying out that I was every thing that was bad, and was doing all this in order to hurt the Expedition, &c;—all which, however false, produced a Visible Indisposition in the people towards attending the Elections; and altho' I was not attempting any thing with design to Injure his Expedition, I Could not do any thing to fill up the General's troops out of the Militia of this frontier County, not having Council's Orders for that purpose; however, on the whole, and Just then receiving such Inteligence of the Line being Immediately seen, as I thought authentic, I Judged it most precedent to postpone the Election untill that event Should happen, or untill the departure of the armed Banditti Under the general, that then awed the good people of this County, and were Chasing such of the Inhabitants as Penticost, Shepperd & Evans; the Lieut^s of Youghagani, Monogalia & Ohio, were pleased to point out by way of drafting as fit persons to go with the general; and on Missing their persons were Violating and totally destroying their property, and accordingly I Countermanded the Advertisements, and let things ly still for some time Untill the wanton Barbarity and unparalleled arbitrary proceedings of the s^d party Convinced the people, that it was Impossible they Could have Authority from any government to act in that manner, and caused them to shew a desire of being formed Under this go^t; whereupon I again advertised five battalion Districts, (being the whole in the County) and have had two Elections, and hopes shortly to have the Militia in full form. And now it's like the General's Expedition is on the Eve of falling totally through, and I am to bear the blame; and the general, in return for the Service done him by those afore^d, is to Vilify me to government, and produce the afore^d Contradictory Advertisements as Evidence against me, in Order to raise some of the said Gentlemen to a higher state of favour with

government than I.—Whatever their Attempts may be, or in what manner made, I Can only say at present, I have acted such a part as I thought a faithful Officer ought to do in similar Cases; and that I Ever Conceived I had no right so much as to say any of the people of this County had a right to go with general Clark without your Excellency's Orders for that purpose; much less that I should ly still on purpose that the Virginia Officers should draft the Militia of this County for that service—if any Complaint, of what kind soever, should be lodged against me, I hope your Excellency will favour me with a Coppy thereof, that I may have an Opportunity of doing myself Justice; and as the Manner in which the Genl and his Underlings have treated the people of this and Westmoreland Counties has been so arbitrary and unprecedented, I think it my duty to Inform your Excellency the particulars of a few facts.

The first Instance was with one Jno Harden, in Westmoreland, who, with a number [of] others, refused to be drafted under the gov^t of Virginia, alledging they were undoubtedly in Pennsylvania, and Declared if that government Ordered a draft, they would Obey Chearfully, and accordingly Elected their officers, and made returns thereof to Col. Cook. After this, the general, with a party of forty or fifty horse men, Came to Harden's in Quest of him to hang him, as the general himself Declared; but not finding the old Gentleman, took and tied his son, broke open his mill, Fed away and Destroyed upwards of 150 Bushels Wheat, Rye and Corn, Killed his sheep and hogs, and lived away at Mr Harden's Expences in that manner for two or three days; Declared his Estate forfeited, but graciously give it to his wife; Formed an article in which he bound all the Inhabitants he could lay hands on, or by any means prevail upon to Come in to him, Under the penalty of ten months' in the Regular Army, not to oppose the draft. Another man in Westmoreland, being in Company with Clark's troops, happened to say the draft was Illegal, upon which he was Immediately Confined, and Ordered to be hanged by the General. Col. Penticost, being willing to assist the General, Issued Orders to the Commanding officers of the old Militia Companys, to Raise an armed force and Collect the Delinq^ts; and altho' these orders were Chiefly disobeyed, yet there has been several armed Banditties in this County, under the Command of a Certain Col. Cox and others, who have acted nearly in the same Manner as the general himself has done.

They being in Quest of John Douglas, (a Gent. Elected one of our Justices for this County) and not finding him the first attempt, broke open his house in the night time, Fed away and destroyed such a part of Rye and Corn (his property) as they thought proper, Drew their swords upon his wife and Children in order to make them Discover where he was; the s^d Cox and his party have taken and Confined a Considerable number of the Inhabitants of this County, amongst which were Hugh Scott (one of the acting trustees of the County) altho he was not drafted, in a word the Instances of

high treason against the State are toe many to be Enumerated, therefore shall not trouble your Excellency any more on the subject at present, but beg leave once more to urge the necessity of the proposed temporary line being run as soon as possible, as the Governour of Virginia's orders to one on this side of the Mountain is actually arrived. I wish to God your Excellencys orders for that purpose was also in the hands of some person in this Countrey—if your Excellency would be pleased to send by the Bearer, Blank Commissions for five Battalions & one troop of horse, it will tend Considerably to forward the business, and enable us to Call out the Militia much sooner for the defence of the Country in Case of an Invasion. I have been under the Necessity or Raising a small party of Volunteers as a guard for the Frontier Inhabitants the time of harvest, for which I hope to have your Excellencys approbation, and that Council will forward Amunition for the use of this County as soon as possible; the enemy having actualy Invaded the Country & Caused Considerable part of this County to be Evacuated, Arms is also very much wanted.

I have the honour to be, with very great Respect & Esteem,

your Excellency's Obedt Humble Servant,

JAMES MARSHAL.

Directed,

On public Service,

His Excellency President Reed.

℘ Mr Wherry.

Gen. Wm. Irvine to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Carlisle, August 9th, 1781.

Sir,

I have to acknowleege the receipt of your Excellency's favour of July the 23d, ten Days after date. This morning I received a letter from Colonel Wood, who has the Charge of the convention prisoners, with several extracts of Letters, giving intelligence of the Enemy's movements up the Chesapeak, and expressing fear that they may attempt rescuing the prisoners.

As Lancaster & York Town are the places allowed for feeding the Troops, and directly in the rout to the Southward, and also convenient to draw them together for the purpose of covering the country, should the Enemy land either at Baltimore, or the Head of Elk. I have thought it proper to order all the recruits & others fit for Service, to march immediately to these two places. I have about 300 Stand of Arms at York Town, but neither ammunition, Tents, Knapsacks nor Canteens. I think one Field piece will also be necessary. I have wrote to the Board of War for a Supply of the above named stores, but fear they may not have them all immediately in their power, and hope the Honourable Council may afford some assistance. We shall likewise want Shoes & Overalls very much.

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that no person has as yet undertaken to supply the Post at York with provisions. I can not say any thing of Lancaster. I should not trouble your Excellency now with this business Did I not think it of the utmost importance. Indeed, I am much at a loss how to act. There appears an absolute necessity for calling as many Men as possible to these places, and yet, to order Officers & Men to where they are not acquainted, without a shilling in their pockets & no provisions, is certainly hard. Mr. Morris's conduct appears to me very extraordinary, and how he can suppose it possible to Keep men at this rate is really mysterious. I should have wrote him on the subject, but do not certainly know whether I have any thing to do with him. As his agreement has been with the State, I presume they are to see that he performs it. However, if I misapprehend the Matter, shall be very much obliged to your Excellency to put me right. In the mean time should I find it necessary to take the Field with what few Men can be collected, I Know not how they are to be fed, and fear I shall be reduced to the Disagreeable necessity of taking it by force. Should Mr. Morris even supply the posts he has agreed to, this will not do in the Field, at the Distance, perhaps, of 50 or 60 Miles.

The Quarter Master Departments can not afford the smallest assistance, having neither money nor Credit.

I have the honour to be,
with great respect Sir, your Excellency's
most obedient humble Servant,
WM. IRVINE.

P. S. I have called on the Volunteer Troop of Horse of this County to assemble at York Town, and will go there myself to morrow, I shall remain either at York Town or Lancaster untill the movements of the Enemy are clearly understood.

Col. Sam. Miles to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a Aug. 9th, 1781.

Sir,

I have taken the liberty of enclosing an extract of a letter Just received from my assistant at Reading, if your Excellency & the Honble. Council shall think it necessary to give any directions to the majestrates on the subject of the extract, & will favour me with it, I will forward it immediately.

I am your Excellencies,
most obedt. Hbbl. Servt.
SAM. MILES. D. Q. M.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr., Presidt. of the State of Pennsylvania.

Wm. Attlee to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster ye 9th Augt. 1781.

Sir,

Colonel Hubley having left this yesterday for Charlestown & the north of Susquehanna to reconoiter & place a Chain of Centry's so as to prevent a Surprize in case the Enemy should attempt the Prisoners and Stores at this place, & having communicated to me your Excellency's Letter by express on Tuesday last, wherein mention is made that arms for this County are ready & only waiting for a conveyance. I take the liberty to mention to your Excellency that the bearer major Brooks from York Town goes to Philadelphia with intent to forward some arms for York County, & will assist in having those for this County brought to us. Should the Waggon or Waggons which Mr. Brooks may engage be unable to bring the arms for both Counties, I am confident Sir, that Mr. Casper Singer in Market Street, can forward them any Day by return Waggons of this County, & will cheerfully assist in the business.

Col. Wood is this minute returned here from York County but has no further accounts of the Enemy, except a report that they have landed at or near Anapolis, he has placed a Chain of Centry's on the other side Susquahanna, to prevent a surprize in that quarter.

I am your Excellency's

most obedt. hum. Servt.

WILLM. ATTLEE.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed Esquire President of the State of Pennsylvania.

☞ favour of Major Brooks.

Pres. Reed to Henry Christ, 1781.

Gentlemen,

We have had frequent Representations made to us by the Dr Quarter Master & his Assistants of Difficulties arising in the billeting Soldiers for Want of Concurrence & Assistance by the Magistrates, We apprehend it to be highly proper that the civil officers should take the Direction of this Business rather than that it should be done by mere military Authority or the Soldiers left to themselves or what would be an inhuman & ungrateful Alternation leave them to suffer for Want of Accomodation. It is our Desire & Direction that upon Application you will act in the Business by giving Billets to an Officer applying & preferring public Houses to private while the former are in your Judgment sufficient. This has been the constant Practice in this City & no Inconvenience has ensued. The

Readiness & Zeal with which the Magistrates of Berks County have acted in Support of the public Cause leaves us no Room to doubt they will chearfully give their Aid for the Promotion of the public Service.

I am Gentlemen with much Esteem & Regard

your obed. hble. St.

Directed,

Henry Christ, Esq., to be communicated to the Justices of Peace of Reading.

Indorsed,

August 10th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Robt. Levers, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letters of the 29 Ult. & 7th Inst.* have both been duly received & communicated to the Council. We have no Doubt but the Representation you make of the Difficulties of procuring Provision for the Militia without hard money are very just, as similar Demands are made from other Counties. But it is equally impossible for us to comply with them & if the People of the County will not give their Assistance to feed the Troops employed for the Defence of themselves & their fellow Inhabitants we can only regret the Misfortunes that will unavoidably follow. As no Specie whatever has been received from the People by Taxes or otherwise we would wish they would consider how we should have it to issue, the only money in the Treasury is the Paper which they refuse, if we had hard money we would issue it but we assure you there is not money in the Treasury to answer even the smaller Purposes of Government nor have we a Prospect of any untill the new Tax Law is put in force. We hope this will be an additional Argument with your Commissioners to exert themselves in that Business as we shall not hesitate to appropriate what may be necessary whenever it is in our Power. The Assembly voted a Loan of hard money which has never been filled nor have we been able to draw any Assistance from it farther than to supply the Troops with Bread untill the Contractors under Mr Morris should take up that Business. We are sorry to learn the Condition of the Continentals at Easton & would advise that they be removed to Reading as soon as possible leaving an Officer or two to receive any Recruits which may be raised under the Late Class Law & we would wish the Subsistence of these Recruits be agreed for as at Newtown, viz; 2s. ℔ Day which we will find means to pay to your Draught & therefore you may safely engage for this Payment observing allways that whenever they

* See page 224.

amount to 5 or 6 they should be put off to Reading which being a Place of Contract there will be a regular Supply. This is the best mode we can devise as our Purchasing Commissioners have done acting. We cannot agree to pay 6s. ℔ Bushel for Wheat as that is the Price here & very dull & we apprehend an Allowance should be made for the Distance from Market. The Jersey Price in Taxes we deem quite immeterial as we know the Allowance in that Case is much more liberal than common Purchase.

We are sorry for Capt. Shrawder's ill Success but it is absolutely out of our Power to give him any Assistance—if the 5 men inlisted can be turned over to the Pennsylv. Line it will be agreeable to us or that they go to Northumberland & join Capt. Robinson's Company at their Election, as there is no Prospect of the Company filling under their own Capt., in this Case he & the Officer will be relieved from farther Duty & at Liberty to engage in other Pursuits. Col. Stroud's mode of accounting for the Arms seems extraordinary as perhaps he may have received public Arms without Account taken, it is our Desire that he give up all the Arms he has belonging to the State. We approve of Mr Patterson's taking Care of the Stores & Ammunition agreeable to Appointment. In Answer to Mr Potts' Questions would observe;

First, That we do not conceive a Militia Officer amenable to a Court Martial when not in actual Service.

Secondly, That the Regulations made by the Militia Law are all the Rules of Conduct for the Militia when called in state service.

At the same Time we think it proper that the Court Martial should make Inquiry into any unofficer like Conduct & report in what particulars such Officer has misbehaved, tho' it may not come within the Articles of War, as proper measures may be taken in many Respects to guard the public against the Inconveniences resulting from such Commissions. We would also observe that whenever an Officer is on Duty under a general or special Direction of the Lieutenant or Sub-Lieutenant he becomes liable in our Judgement to a military Inquiry, we mention this as we have authorized Lieutenants & in some Instances Sub-Lieutenants to call forth Militia on Emergencies.

We have no Objection to Capt. Heller's resuming his Commission. Col. Raup's Resignation was not communicated to us before, you will in this Case direct a new Election as we cannot tell from your Letter whether you have Commissions or not.

We are always glad that Gentlemen in office would apply for Direction in Case of Difficulty rather than hazard measures which may involve them & us in Embarassments.

I am Sir

your St.

Indorsed,

August 10th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Col. Wm. Scott, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letters of the 28th Ult. & 8th Inst.* have both been duly received. The Council are extremely well satisfied with your Management respecting the Prisoners, but wonder much that you should be called upon for the Articles of the Quarter Masters Department which we do not conceive it incumbent on us to provide—& if it was it is entirely out of our Power. We presume the Paper Money has little or no Circulation with you, & we have not yet had any hard Money Taxes to supply the Treasury with Money of another Kind. We think it proper that you should inform Col. Wood that the Supply of the Quarter Masters Departmt does not lay with the State, nor have we in any Instance undertaken it. It therefore will be necessary to make Application for this Supply thro some Continental Channell, as even in this Place we furnish nothing of this Nature, but the whole is under the immediate Direction & Supply of the Dr Q^r Master.

We have taken great Pains to discover the Arms your Officers left here last Year, but without Effect, there must have been great Neglect in the Officers in delivering them without a proper Receipt. We have directed 50 Stand to be sent, that being a great Proportion of the Arms in Hand. We learn that there is both Powder & Lead at York Town under the Care of the Treasurer, we have sent an Order to deliver it to you, as from the Time & Manner of its being left it must unquestionably be the Property of the State—You will therefore pass your Receipt for it.

The Measures taken for the Security of the Prisoners seem very judicious, but we apprehend if any Attempt had been meditated it would have been made at once before there was Time for Preparation—so that it is to be presumed all Danger is over for the present.

With Respect to Pistols & Swords we have nothing of this Nature, nor are they to be purchased if we were supplied with Money for the purpose. We would also remark that by the Militia Law each Dragoon to be entitled to Exemption from Militia Duty was to equip himself. The Light Horse of this City & County & of Chester have equipped themselves agreeably to the Law.

As there is no Probability of the Prisoners being suddenly removed we must request you to make such Arrangements of Militia & Attest the Fines as will keep that Service in a suitable Train & prevent future Embarrassments.

I am Sir, with due Esteem,
your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.,
J. R.

Indorsed, Aug. 11, 1781.
Directed, Col. Wm. Scott, York Town.

* See page 341.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, August 12th, 1781.

Sir,

Your favour of the 6th instant (☞ Express) came safe to hand last evening.

After taking every precaution for removing the stores and securing the Prisoners, &c., at this place, in case of a forward movement of the Enemy as was expected, and ordering four Batallions of Militia to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice. I (being greatly disappointed by a number of People, whom I expected would turn out Volunteers for the purpose of collecting intelligence of the opperations of the Enemy) with Colo. Ross, on the 8th, went to Charles-town and places Adjacent, to inform ourselves of their movements.

I now beg leave to communicate to your Excellency such intelligence, which I collected from the most intelligent people of that Country.

It appears the fleet, with about 1200 (some say 2000) troops, on the 6th instant, seemingly stood up the Chesapeak, making a half Circle, round a place call'd the Horse-shoe,—Wind & Tide being unfavourable, oblidg'd them to put into the Western shore at the mouth of York River, near Hampton Road. Here they continued for some small time, and then took a position so as to moove either up the Bay, Potomack, or Rapahanock, as circumstances would admit.

It appears rather difficult to make any thing of their present movements.—Conjectures are various, some are of oppinion their Object is Baltimore, some, they mean to push up one of those rivers, to distress the Country; others they mean to make a rappid moove up the Bay and attempt a rescue of their Prisoners at York & this place, but the more general oppinion is (which to me seems to carry some degree of probability) they are prepar'd for an immediate push to New York should that place be invaded, as is expected.

However, our situation here is such as to admit of a surprize, if not the greatest precaution is taken, and therefore we ought to be prepared at all times.

On the 11th, after having settled, for the purpose of conveying intelligence from Charlestown, a chain of Communication,—I returned to this place, and shall now wait your further orders.

I cannot but Confess I was exceedingly distress'd on receiving your letter—Our want of Arms, &c., is truly alarming,—and the militia here knowing their situation in that particular, seem absolutely cool,—the Cry is give us Arms, and we will readily do our duty, but without them nothing can be expected or done from us, our safety must depend (in our situation) on our flight.

I must beg your Excellency will press the forwarding of those which are prepared for this place. No time should be lost. Our

situation is not the most desirable,—the Enemy, should they incline this way, must carry their point, as our opposition could be but faint, owing to the want of Arms, &c.

I think it would not be amiss, (considering our present situation) if a few pieces of Artillery were stationed here, they would answer various good purposes, amongst others, that of perfecting the Recruits of late Proctor's Regiment. stationed here, in Exercise

I am sincerely, your Excellency's

most obt & very humble servt,

ADm HUBLEY, J. Lt Lr Cr.

I must beg your Excellency's attention to my last.

Directed,

(On public service.)

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Penna, Philadelphia.

Arch'd McClean to Pres. Reed, 1781.

York Town, August 13th, 1781.

May it please your Excellency,

On my Return home from Philadelphia, which was on the Monday after I had the Pleasure of last Conversing with you, I had an opportunity of writing to my Brother Alexander at Red Stone and took the Liberty of informing him of your Excellency's having received a Letter from the Governor of Virginia and the Proposals therein Contained, & also of your Excellency's Acquiescence therewith, & Proposal of appointing him (Alexander,) on the part of this State to assist in running a temporary Line.

Also I found that a Letter had been received by Mrs. McLean from Alexander whilst I was at Philadelphia directed to me, and which as a great part thereof contains Matters which deeply concerns the State, and as the account given thereof by him I have full Confidence may be relied on, I have used the Liberty to inclose that part thereof to your Excellency for your Information; The whole being lengthy and the other parts respecting some matters between the Surveyor General and him, I have therefore copied so much of Page 3 as finished the Paragraph, and the account of the Situation of the Country.

I have received no Letter from him since, but hath certain accounts from an Inhabitant of those Parts who left my Brother's House about Ten Days ago, That Alexander is drafted to go on an Expedition to the westward with General Clark and that he was actually gone to Fort Pitt on the Day before the Person left Home who informed me.

This I would suppose is in Consequence of the Result of the Hannah's Town Committee as it is Called in my Brother's Letter, and I am well assured he must have went with great Reluctance on any Virginia Expedition, unless there are Orders from your Excellency and the Honourable Board for that Purpose.

I the rather mention this Circumstance, That should your Excellency and the Honourable Board, appoint him to assist in Running the Tempory Line you may be informed whither he is gone, and I am farther assured That as I had informed him of your Excellency's Intentions, he would not at this Time have set out on a Virginia Affair were it not That he must have apprehended danger from the Arbitrary Measures pursued by the Virginians or those who Call themselves so in that Quarter.

If there are Orders from this State for the Draft I shall then be satisfied; If not I would pray your Excellency and your Honourable Board That if possible a speedy stop may be put to such Proceedings and that if he is drafted by Virginia as a Citizen of that State, he be recalled in some effectual way.

When your Excellency shall have satisfied yourself and the Honourable Board with reading the parts of the Letter, be pleased to pardon me in requesting your Excellency to hand it over to the Surveyor General, to whom I have sent the other part and hath requested him to return the Whole thereof unto me.

I am,

May it please your Excellency,

your Excellency's obliged and

most obedient humble Servant,

ARCH^d. McCLEAN.

Directed,

On public Service.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President, &c^a., Philadelphia.

P. S. At the Foot of the part of the Paragraph which I Copied I mentioned the Distance that my Brother liveth from the South and West Bounds of this State, in Order to shew your Excellency how far the State of Virginia Extend their Depredations within this State.

MONS. HOLKER AND DE BARRAS TO ———, 1781.

Philadelphia, Aug. 14th, 1781.

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to communicate to you an extract of a letter I have received from Monsr de Barras commanding the French squadron at New Port by which you will perceive how desirous he is that the

most efficacious measures may be immediately taken for seizing and detaining all French seamen serving on board continental ships of war, Privateers, or merchantmen, as well as all those remaining in Philadelphia or its neighbourhood, that they may be ready for the first opportunity that shall offer of employing them on board the king's ships.

I earnestly request you Gentlemen to inform me whether you can give me any, and what assistance in this business and that you will honor me with your advice thereon, Agreeing to defray myself all charges that may be incurred on this occasion.

signed, HOLKER.

—

Extract of a letter from Monsr De Barras commanding the French fleet to Mons'r Holker Consul of France.

Newport, July 28th, 1781.

"I think it necessary to inform you that it would contribute vastly to the good of the King's service if from this date to the last of the month of August next you caused to be shipped all French sailors that may be at Philad^a. I presume that in the course of this month I may be able to send some vessels into the river Delaware which might receive on board such sailors and bring them to this squadron which is very much in want of them. If on the other hand we cannot secure all sailors navigating on these seas the King must of necessity lay by his fleet. The Merchants of the state of Massachusetts have determined among themselves to forbid all captains sailing in their employ whether in privateers or merchantmen to receive on board any French sailors, they have even gone farther and ordered that they be stopped and brought to the French fleet. It were to be wished that the merchants of Pensylvania would do as much, for even if such a resolution did not procure us many Seamen it would have a tendency to prevent their desertion by informing them that no employ would be given but on the contrary that they should be sent back to the fleet.

signed, DE BARRAS.

C. HAYS AND THOMAS SCOTT TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Westmoreland, August 15th, 1781.

May it please your Excellency and honors,

Agreeable to the desire of council, expressed in your letter of the 23d of July last, and upon full consideration of the circumstances attending, and conciquences like to flow from the business, we nominate Edward Cook, Esqr, For Lieutenant of the county of Westmoreland.

We do not expect less than a clamour, perhaps some pettitions on this subject: but a consideration of duty to council and our country, with us, far exceeds those trifels, and for our comfort, we are convinced such clamours, &c., will only have the countinance of such as have been profiters by public default, and those who they, by mere dint of Detraction, may be able, for a time, to delude into their measures.

We doubt not some Complaints may reach Council of this gentleman and some others in trust under the state in this country, being great enemies to General Clark's expedition,—this is not the fact, the truth of the matter is, the General's Expedition has been wished well, and volantiers to that service have been Incouraged, by all With whom we corispond; but we have heartily reprobated the General's Standing over these two counties with armed force, in order to dragoon the Inhabitants into obedience to a draft under the laws of Virginia, or rather under the arbitrary orders of the officers of that Government, without any orders from Virginia for that purpose, and this is realy the part the General hath acted, or rather the use which has been made of him in this country.

Mr. McClean's Instructions are come to hand, and we hope a short time will put an End to this unhapy dispute.

We have the honour to be,
your Excellencies and honours
most obedient and very,
humble servants,

CHRIST^r HAYS,
THOMAS SCOTT.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Pennsylvania.

INHABITANTS OF WASHINGTON, TO PRES. REED, 1781.

August 15th, 1781.

Honble Sir,

Farr from Prejudice and Party Faction, disengaged at Present in the following Narrative, willing to see Justice, without favour or affection Distributed, give us Leave to trouble your Hon^r With a detail of measures at present adopted for Magistrates in this Quarter, ("Washington County.")

At a Time when many People in this County look'd on Themselves bound by their oath of Fidelity to the State of Virginia, untill

the Line between the States should be actually run, or some other Lawful Judicial Proceedings should be taken to relieve them from such Fidellity, At a Time when Genl Clark had an Expedition Carrying on for the salvation of this Country, and when the Lieu^t Col^o had advertised Batallion Elections should be Postpon'd untill the Line between the States should be actually run. Notwithstand^g all these obstructions, an Election for Justices was held on the day Genl Clark order'd his Rendezvous, & that by a Verry few, Electing men farr Inadequate to the Task, men who have ever Lived in obscurity. These being undeniable facts, We beg your Hon^r will Postpone the Commissioning *all* such men untill a fair and Candid Representation can be made—and that to prevent such Fraudulent mal Practices, Fair & Impartial Elections may be held, Whereof *Publick Notice* shall be given, being well Convinced many People in this County never heard of the Election untill the day after it was Past. We further assure your Hon^r *Thus Privately* have men of Abillity, Fortune & Character been deprived of an opportunity to serve their Country, and men Elected who had no reason to Expect such office. We therefore in order to give grace to Proceedings that may come from this Court & Harmonize the People, beg no Comiss^n may Issue untill our Council & Representatives can be heard on the Occasion. We further beg Leave to Pray y^r Hon^r In case you find it absolutely necessary for the administration of Justice to Commission some few of those already Elected, of those Give us Leave to give our opinion of the most able to serve, "to wit," James Edgar Judge, Danl Leet, Jno Reid, Jos. Parkerson, Jno Armstrong, Abm. Howell, and James Brice.

Pardon us for intruding on your Honour's Patience—being moved with Indignation at Party Factions gives us the greatest reason to Expect your Honour will grant the Indulgence, With Leave to Say we remain

your Hon^rs

Most Obdt. Hble. Serv^ts,

VAN SWEARINGEN,
JOHN CANON,
RICHARD YEATES,
ISAAC ISRAEL,
JAMES ALLISON,
B. JOHNSTON,
JOHN M'DOWELL,
G^o W. HARMICK,
THOS. CROOK,
DEMAS LINDSLY,
GEO. MYERS.

JAMES WOOD TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honor of Inclosing your Excellency a List of the Articles of Provisions taken by my Order in this State, under the resolve of Congress of the 4th of June; give me leave to assure you that the Powers have not been Exercised but in Cases of the most absolute Necessity. I find very Great Inconvenience from the Changes in the Militia Officers entrusted with the Command of the Guards over the Prisoners; if it Can be Done with Propriety I could wish to have Power to Continue an Officer on this Duty, (I mean only the Commanding Officer of the Guard) when I find him Properly Qualified for it, and willing to remain on Duty. I have the Honor to be with Great Respect, Sir,

y^r Excellency's

Very Ob^t Servt,

JAMES WOOD.

Reading, 16th August, 1781.

Directed,

Public Service.

His Excellency, President Reed, Philadelphia.

PRES. REED TO COL. MILES, 1781.

Aug. 17, 1781.

Sir,

The Council having been frequently applied to for Payment of Waggons drawn out for the Use of the United States on Requistions of Congress, it has become a Subject of much Consideration what can & ought to be done for the Relief of Individuals who have suffered so heavily by the Service they have rendered the Publick—Considering the great Proportion of Waggons which this State has ever furnished, & from particular Circumstances must furnish on Emergencies, & the constant Practice of the Quarter Masters Department without a single Exception to pay these Demands in the first Instance, we cannot think of varying from it & mingling this with the Mass of unpaid or unaccounted Services of this State. But as we suppose a Want of Money to be your principal Difficulty, we have agreed to advance you a Sum on this Account if you can obtain a Warrant of Congress on us. This will keep the Business in its proper Channel, satisfy Individuals & carry the Sum into a proper Account. If it cannot be done we apprehend that the United States will in future find Difficulty in procuring Waggons, & as this Service falls so peculiarly on this State we cannot doubt you will exert yourself to put it on as favourable a Footing for its Inhabitants as you can.

I am, Sir, &c.

Col. Wm. Coats, &c., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr.

Sir,

Agreable to your Orders from Councill dated July 12th,* we have call'd on the Gentlemen of the Troop of Light Horse of the County of Philad^a, to produce to us their accounts and Vouchers of their Expenditures when out on the last touer of Duty, and agreable to notiss given we had a full meeting, when it appear'd that part of the Troop that had done equal duty with the others, had kept no account and had no Vouchers to produce, not expecting to receive any compensation, sixteen of the Troop produced Vouchers, from which we where under the Necessity of Averaging a price to be allowed to each man when on Command by detachment and where no Provision had been maid for their support, and after mature Consideration have agreed that each Person be allowed for two meals ℔ day, one gill of Rum, twelve quarts of Oats and Hay at night for his Horse, the sum of Six shillings specie the account of the number of Days that each person searv'd with the amount of what appears to us should be paid him accompanies this, which we beg leave to lay before Council, we have the Honour to remain your Excellencies and the Councils most Obedient Humble Servants,

W^m. COATS, Lieutenant C. P.
GEORGE SMITH, Sub. Lieut. C. P.
Wm DEAN, Sub. Lieut. C. P.

Philad^a County, Abington, August 18th, 1781.

Directed,

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Gen. Anthony Wayne to Pres Reed, 1781.

Hanover, 18th Augt. 1781.

Dear Sir,

After being near the Roanoak we have Returned here to meet Lord Cornwallis, who threatens every Devastation that fire & sword can produce, from & after the 24th Instant, we have once saved Virginia & may do it again, however I sincerely wish she may not have occasion for our services.

* See page 272.

You may probably hear something concerning a quantity of Cloathing which we saved near the Appomatick from Col. Tarlton by a forced marched, the articles were 173 pair shoes Eleven pair of Boots, & twenty pieces of Ozrabrigs.

A premature Complaint was lodged with the Marquis Lafayette on the Occation, it was too inadequate to supply our wants, & Delicacy prevented me from Discriminating between the Troops under my Command untill there were proper orders for it, & I am very happy that no part was appropriated to the use of the Pennsa. Line nor will not however great their Distress.

I shall esteem it as a particular favour should you hear anything of this matter to put the Gentlemen right on the occation.

Doctr. Kemp who carries this waits whilst I write. Our wounded Officer & Soldiers are much obligated to him & Doctr. Wilson for their care and attention.

At the pressing solicitation of the Officers I have permitted them to remove to Pennsa. wounded as they are, I hope they may not receive a wrong impression of the State at large from the Conduct of Individuals, for the Gentlemen really possess hospitality, altho' they were so unfortunate as to meet with people of a Contrary Disposition.

I have the honor to be,
with much Esteem your Excellency.
most obdt. & very Hum. Servt.
ANTY. WAYNE.

His Excelly. Govr. Reed.

Archibald McClean to Pres. Reed, 1781.

May it please your Excellency,

Some Time past I suggested the Importance of taking and perpetuating the Testimony of Michael Danner an aged and the only material living Witness, effectually to secure to the State the Quantity of upwards of one hundred acres of the Common and Town Lands to the South of this Town, against the claim of George Stevenson lately set up to the same. The pretended Right of Stevenson was purchased from this Danner a few years ago. Danner is above Eighty years of age, and his Frailty fast increasing; and if your Excellency & the Honble. Board shall approve of and direct the Measure, (as we shall have an adjourned Court of Common Pleas on the 28th Instant,) Col. Hartly will then in Behalf of the State, File the necessary Bill, & obtain a Rule of the Court, & Issue Summons to Mr. Stevenson, agreeable to Chancery Practice, & have the Testimony taken and filed in Perpetuam Rei Memoriam, agreeable to the Constitution, against the October Term.

I should not trouble your Excellency so much about this Matter, were it not that I Know the Importance of this Witness in the Case above mentioned, and if it shall meet with your Excellency's approbation, your directions may be forwarded against the Twenty-Eighth Instant on which Col Hartly will immediatly most chearfully proceed.

I am may it please your Excellency.
Your Excellency's most
Obedient humble Servant,
ARCHD. McCLEAN.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President &c., Philadelphia
Favoured by Mr. Hahn.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, August 19th, 1781.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 11th instant.* I have agreeable to the resolution of Council, therein contained, ordered a relief of militia.

I am happy my conduct, with respect to Capt. Rotfong is approved. Inclosed I transmit the proceedings of a regimental Court martial, held agreeable to Law in time for your Excellencys perusal, and further orders thereupon.

I have inquired into Mr. Rotfongs former character, it appears to have always stood in a fair light, untill some time since, when he took a religious turn & join'd a sect here commonly known by the name of new-methodists, consisting chiefly of Menonists who are almost to a man disaffected, Those people it seems have had address to change his sentiments.

As he appears to me a simple fellow I have taken the liberty (if consistent) to recommend him to your Excellency for a remittance (the whole I would not wish) of some part of his sentence.

It is not with small astonishment only that I observ'd some designing or ignorant persons have charg'd me before Council, with partiality in continuing longer on Command, than his tour, an officer of the town.

Council I beg will give me leave to say, that the charge is totaly false & without the least foundation, and that my accusers have acted more from ignorance, spite or as tools, than a desire of advancing either justice or the good of the Public.

* See page 351.

My assertions I wish, not to be considered as meaning a justification of my Conduct, or a desire of having the matter drop'd, my sincere wish is that an inquiry by Council on my Conduct should be made, and if the charge against me is supported they may affix a proper mark of Censure on my Conduct.

I have the Honor to be,
most respectfully your Excellencys,
most obdt. & very h. servt.
ADM. HUBLEY, J. Lt. L. Cy.

Your Excellency will receive herewith, Mr. Smiths Bond.

(On public Service,)

Directed

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Penna. Philadelphia.

Certificate in Favor of Prussian Merchants, 1781.

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr., President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To all to whom these presents shall come, send Greeting, Know ye, that it having been represented to us that certain merchants, subjects of His Majesty the King of Prussia, are desirous of trading with the citizens of Pennsylvania by means of Prussian Ships and assurance of protection hath been requested for such merchants Ships and Merchandize belonging to subjects of his Prussian majesty as shall arrive in the ports of this commonwealth. We have thought proper to declare, that the ports of this Commonwealth are open to the Merchants subjects of the King of Prussia their Ships & merchandize paying such duties & Customs as are or shall be made payable by law, and protection shall, in all cases within our power, be extended to the Merchants & Vessels of the Said nation, and such aid & assistance given to them as their Circumstances may require.

Proceedings of a General Court Martial, 1781.

Held at Lancaster, by Order of Colonel Adam Hubley, Lieut. Lancaster County, for the Tryal of Captain Joseph Gehr, of the fourth Class of the third Battalion, Lancaster County Militia, August 22d, 1781.

Lieut. Colonel James Ross, President.

MEMBERS.

Captain Casper Stoever,	Lieut. Daniel Newman,
Captain Samuel Elliot,	Lieut. John Offner,
Captain Abraham Scott,	Lieut. Philip Weitzel,
Captain John Miller,	Lieut. Daniel Hellinger,
Captain David Krouse,	Ensign William Smith,
Lieutenant Matthew Hays,	Ensign James Miller.

John Ewing, Judge Advocate.

The Judge Advocate producing the Colonels Order for the Court to serve, which being Read, was as follows,

A General Court Martial will assemble to-morrow Morning, at 11 o'Clock, at such Place as the President shall appoint, for the Tryal of Captain Joseph Gehr, of the fourth Class of the third Battalion, Lancaster County Militia, now in the actual Service of the United States of America, at Lancaster. The Prisoner to be acquainted with, and prepared for Trial. All Evidences to be notify'd and appear at said Time & place.

The Lieut. of the County will furnish the Court with the Charge against the Prisoner.

Lieut. Col. James Ross, President, Captains Elliot, Stoever, Scott, Miller, Krouse; Lieutenants Hays, Newman, Offner, Weitzel, Hollinger; Ensigns Smith, Miller, appointed Members.

Captain John Ewing is appointed to Act as Judge Advocate; should any of the Members be wanting, the President shall Order such as he shall think proper.

ADAM HUBLEY, Lt Lan. County.

August 21st, 1781.

The President, Members and Judge Advocate being Sworn, The Court proceeded to the Tryal of Captain Joseph Gehr of the fourth Class, third Battalion, Lancaster County Militia, who being brought before the Court the following Charges were Exhibited against him.

Sir,

You are Charged by John Hantz that you, on the Morning of this Day, being the Time appointed on which the fourth class of the third Battalion, Lancaster County Militia, under your Command, were to Commence a Tour of two Months Militia Duty, Did, as having fully served his said Tour, discharge (with an Intent to Defraud the Public,) John Wall, a lawful Substitute, entered by said Hantz, of said Class, and accepted of by me, and to whom it appears said Hantz had paid a considerable Bounty, as a Consideration for Serving his said Tour.

And that you also received a Bribe of Nine Silver Dollars for Executing and delivering said Discharge, contrary to the Laws of this State and the Dignity of an Officer.

For which Charges you are hereby Ordered under Arrest, and abide the determination of a general Court Martial.

ADAM HUBLEY, Lt L. County.

August 21st, 1781.

To Capt. Joseph Gehr, of the 4th Class, 3d Batt., Lancastr County Militia.

Captain Gehr Pleads Guilty.

The Court are Unanimously of opinion that the said Captain Gehr be Cashier'd, and that the Crime, Name, Place of abode and Punishment of the Delinquent be published in the News-Papers of this State; after which it shall be Deemed scandalous for any Officer to associate with him.

JAMES ROSS, L. Colt 8th Batt. L. C. M.,
President.

Directed,

For His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq., President of the Common Wealth of Pennsylvania.

DAVID KENNEDY TO SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, 1781.

To the Honourable, the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Shubart having produced to me an Affidavit made by him and Frederick Hailer* before John Miller, Esq., proving that they had, in the year 1777, offered £500, the purchase Money, for two Lots of Ground, for the Use of the German Lutheran Congregation in this City, to Mr. Penn, That he refused taking it, and that sd Mr Penn had agreed to let them keep the Money one Year longer without Interest.

They therefore desire that one Years Interest may be abated in the Settlement & payment intended to be made to the Recr Genl.

I shall be much obliged to the Honble Council for their Opinion & Direction, if the Agreement above mentioned is to be observed, and a Years Interest allowed, and if I shall be justify'd in making an Order to the Recr Genl. accordingly.

DAVID KENNEDY.

1781, Aug. 21st.

* See below; also Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 36; the interest was abated.

Deposition Respecting Lutheran Church, 1781.

City of Philadelphia, ss.

The Sixteenth Day of August, A. Dom., 1781, Before me, John Miller, one of the Justices, &c., came Michael Shubart, of the City of Philadelphia, Esq., and Frederick Hailer, of the same place. Gent^s, who, being Sworn according to Law, did declare and aver as follows, Viz., That in the Month of April, A. Domo., one Thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, they went to John Penn, Esq., and offered to pay him Five Hundred pounds, lawful Money of Pennsylvania, for two Lots of Ground in this City, purchased for the use of the German Lutheran Church. That Mr. Penn refused to accept of the Money, saying that in few Months that Money would be good for nothing. That Mr. Penn agreed to let them keep the s^d Money for one year longer without Interest, rather than receive it at that Time.

MICHAEL SHUBART,
FRED'K HAILER.

Sworn the Day & Year first above written, Before me, JOHN MILLER.

Proposals of Thomas Pixley, 1781.

Philadelphia, August 22, 1781.

Gentlemen,

Seeing the Advertisement for an Overseer* is Wanting, I Offer myself as a fit Person, being well Acquainted With the Nature of the Imploy; my terms is £90 ℔ Annum.

From Your Most Obedient,
Humble Servant,
THO. PIXLEY.

Att Mr. Jacob Bristol's, Fishey Court,† Market Street.

Directed,
Proposals for Mud Island.

Col. Samuel Hunter to Col. Adam Hubley, 1781.

Fort Augusta, 22d, 1781.

Sir,

I am sorry to inform you that I am oblig'd to Discharge the Militia before their touer of two months is out, as we could not find them Rations in this County at any Rate, being there was no money to purchase with, and the Publick has no Cred^t at present, so that our Commissioner of Purchases can do nothing in that way. I am

* For Mud Island. † Lætitia Court.?

ashamed to have it said we could not keep the militia three weeks longer, but so it is.

I muster'd Captain William Johnson's Company from Paxton, yesterday, agreeable to his muster Roll, which he will show you. He arived here the 16th July, but it was not in my Power to muster his Company at his arivel here agreeable to your Request, as the men did not come all together, nor some for several days after I had stationed Capt Johnson and what came with himself at first. Captain John Harkerider, from Hanover, arived here the 18th July he has not left his station as yet, but I think he soon will. I had hard geting those Companys Equipt, as we have no such thing as Publick Stores in this County, however we made out to Supply them with Arms and Ammunition with enough ado, Suppose Captain Jonson's Company Recd twelve Rounds ℔ man they had not a single Cartridge to Return when they came here from their Stations. I would beg it as a favour of you in case any Militia is Ordered to the frontiers from Lancaster County that they should be accoutred for their tour of Duty they have to serve, but not to Give the Ammunition to the men untill they arive here as they are Very apt to Squander it away which is Customary to the Militia. I have nothing Strange to Communicate you from here.

I am sr your Most Obed. Humbl Servt,

SAMl HUNTER, Lt N. C.

Directed,

Publick Service.

Colonel Adam Hubley, Lieutenant of Lancaster County.

favd by Capt. Wm. Johnson.

Col. Daniel Brodhead to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Fort Pitt, Augt 23rd, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty to inclose a petition which I have received from the non-commissioned officers &c., of the 8th P. Regt. I am sensible that they have suffered great hardships and I hope their wants will be speedily supplied by those who may have it in their power. Every method I could devise has been attempted and I expect a small supply of Flour but this will last but a few Days.

Yesterday morning the 7th Virgn Regt came out of the Barracks with their packs made up, grounded their Arms & seemed determined to March off; But were by fair promises of supplies, prevailed on to remain a Day or two longer. The Maryland Corps is at present stationed upon the frontier of Westmoreland, but it appears by recent information, that they are determined to March to Maryland to apply for Clothing of which they are quite destitute.

An Expedition against the Sandushies is in Contemplation and I wish to promote it, but what can be done with naked & starved men unless the Country will afford a generous supply, you will easily Determine.

My Enemies here endeavour to procrastinate my Trial and indeed every thing is in confusion.

I hope the contract advertised by Mr. Morris is closed & that the Contractor will speedily contribute to the relief of these Troops.

I have heard nothing of the Clothing expected from Philad^a, I hope they are forwarded and that a speedy supply of Blankets, Hats, Coats, Jackets, Woolen Overalls, Socks & Shoes will be furnished for all the Troops serving here.

I have the Honor to be

with great Respect & esteem

Dear sir, your most obed^t Servt,

DANIEL BRODHEAD.

Postscript,

Please to communicate these Circumstances to Congress.

Directed,

His Excelly Jos. Reed, Esqr.

Resolution of Congress—Leaden Spouts, 1781.

By the United States in Congress Assembled, August 23, 1781.

On a Report of the Board of War of 24th of July, 1779.

Resolved,

That the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania be requested to appoint proper persons to make a just appraisement of the Leaden spouts taken in the year 1777, from the houses of sundry inhabitants of Philadelphia by order of Congress for the use of the United States & that they direct the appraisers to return to the Board of War & Ordnance such their valuation & appraisment.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec^y.*

Pres. Reed to Gen. Anthony Wayne, 1781.

Sir,

I duly received your Favour of the 8th & 16th Ult.,† & am much obliged to you for the Detail of Occurrences of the Army & the Condition of the Troops under your Command. We have made every possible Exertion of Supply for the Troops, & to equip the Recruits, amounting to about 500, so that Capt. Zeigler is now in Possession

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 41, 42.

† See p. 293.

of a considerable Quantity of Shirts, Overalls, Shoes, &c., which he has orders to forward as soon as possible. It has been a Complaint too general, & I fear too just, that when the Troops have been at a Distance, they have been neglected; but you may depend upon it this will not be the Case with you. We daily expect to know from General Washington whether the Recruits now in the State are to march Southward or to his own Army. It would be most convenient to the State & otherwise beneficial, that all the Line should be together. At the General's Request, we have attempted to raise a Corps of Rifle Men, to consist of 300; we tried with hard Money, & engaged Six of the retired Captains in the Service, allowing them 10s. Specie ⅌ Day, besides Pay, &c. But it has proved very unsuccessful, as we have not got 20 Men after two Months' Trial. As I suppose your other Correspondents furnish you with the publick Intelligence, I shall not trouble you with a Repetition. The two great Events now in Expectancy, & of which we seem to have the fairest Prospects, are the Revival of publick Credit, Paper Money appreciating fast, & the Arrival of a French Fleet of superiour Strength to any the Enemy can send after them—as Rodney has gone to England with a Part of his Squadron. Should it fortunately arrive in the Chesapeake before Detachments take Place for Green's Army, I think it highly probable you will strike a capital Stroke on the British Forces of the South, whose Laurels are already much withered by Green's Successes in Carolina. I am, &c.

P. S.—Since writing the above, we learn that Mr Searle is on the Point of leaving Holland about the 1st May, having so far succeeded in his Mission as to procure military Supplies to a considerable Amount, the Benefits of which will, I hope, be experienced by both Officers & Soldiers early in the Fall. We cannot but think the Attention shown to the Troops by the Authority of the State, & the superiour Appearance they have & will hereafter make over the Troops of the other States, will sooner or later harmonize the component Parts of the Commonwealth, & strengthen & support the common Cause. We are sorry to inform you, that Marquis de Fayette, laden with Cloathing for the Army—the last ship expected on that Account—was taken by the Fleet bound to the West Indies.

Gen. Wayne.

Indorsed,—August 25, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Col. James Marshal, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 8th Augt* has been duly received & laid before the Council, who are well satisfied with your Endeavours to organise the Militia of Washington County, tho' they have not had all the Success to be wished. As General Clark's Proceedings have been the Occasion of so much Dissatisfaction in the Country, & it is given

* See page 342.

ent that he has extraordinary Countenance from us, we think it necessary to state our Sentiments & the Facts respecting his Command. We were informed early last Spring, that a Plan of an Expedition under Gen. Clark against the Western Indians was approved by Gen. Washington. Our Opinion of the Gentleman, from his former Successes & acknowledged Abilities, as well as our Belief that his Expedition would be beneficial to our Frontier, led us to give it our Countenance so far as to write to the Gentlemen of Westmoreland County, with a View that it should be communicated to you, that it was our Wish that Gen. Clark might be assisted so far as to encourage Volunteers to go with him, & to supply him with Provisions if he should have Occasion to apply for them, he paying their Value. We also wrote to General Clark himself,* a Copy whereof is inclosed, by which you will see the Extent of the Countenance & Support he has derived from us. But, while we utterly disapprove the Irregularities & Hardships which have been exercised by him towards the Inhabitants; we cannot help fearing that too many, in Consequence of the unsettled State of Boundaries, avail themselves of a Pretence to withhold their Services from the publick at a Time they are most wanted, & when an Exertion would not only serve the Country, but promote their own Security. We cannot help also observing, that by Letters received from the principal Gentlemen in Westmoreland, it seems evident they approve of Gen. Clark's Expedition, & that the Lieutenants of both States united in the Plan of raising 300 Men for that Service; as the State of publick Affairs had not admitted your forming the Militia sufficiently to concur in these Measures, we concluded that these Resolutions would also include your County, & even now are at a Loss to account for the different Opinions entertained on the Point by the People of Westmoreland & Washington Counties. Before this gets to Hand, you will have received the Letters informing you of the Agreement to run a temporary Line untill the Season will permit the Astronomical Observations to be made to ascertain it with more Accuracy. We hope that by this time Mr McClean is actively engaged in the Service, &, we doubt not, he will receive every Assistance therein from the good People of both States.

No Complaint whatever has been made against you to us, & you may rest assured, that as we shall not take up Prejudices hastily, so if any real Cause of Dissatisfaction is suggested, we shall give you a good Oppy of stating your Conduct before any Steps are taken to your Disadvantage. We send you by this Oppy the Commissions requested, but would have you make a Return to us of the Names of all the Officers to whom Commissions shall be given. We sometime ago sent up to Westmoreland, to the Care of Col. Hayes, our Member, a considerable Quantity of Ammunition, part of which was designed for your County. On applying to that Gentleman, you will receive farther Satisfaction on this Point.

* See pp. 28, 187, 189, 301.

We have nothing farther to add, than our Request that you will proceed, as soon as Circumstances will admit, to compleating the Militia, & to promote by every Means in your Power, a Spirit of Harmony & good Agreement. In the Line of your Duty & Attachment to the State, you may depend upon all necessary & proper Support from us.

I am, Sir, &c.

Col. James Marshal, Lieut. of Washington County.

Indorsed,

August 25, 1781.

Hon. Christopher Hays to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Westmoreland, August y° 25th, 1781.

Sir,

Yours of the Sixteenth of May and Twenty third of July* with the Different Laws and Newspapers Came to Hand.

It is with the utmost Concern I am Obliged to Inform your Excellency that the Distresses of the Frontiers are Truly Alarming and the Inhabitance is Dayly Destroyed in the Different Parts of this Cuntry.

There has been Divers Meetings for Devising the best mode for the Protection of this Cuntry & there has been a Majority of a small Number of Men at Said Meetings who Fell on a Plan of Joyning General Clark with a Number of Troops From this Cuntry as Has Been Represented to you which I by no Means Could Consent or Agree to and yet has Been Forced by Colonel Lochry Contrary to the will and Pleasure of the Major Part of the Inhabitance of this County and to the Great Disadvantage of the Distressed Frontiers and for the Benefit of the State of Virginia Alone—As has since General Clarks Departure been Made known to me by Colonel Gibson and several Other Virginia Officers Which obligeth Colonel Daniel Broadhead with the Assistance of the Melitia of this and Washington County to Carry on a Campain by the Fifth of Next Month Against the same Towns that General Clark & Colonel Lochry Purposed to go to Fifty Eight Good Men Belonging to Captain Stockleys and Captain Sharers Companies in a Manner Naked Besides a Number of Voluntiers From this County Has Been Sent with General Clark for the Protection of the Frontiers of Virginia as Aforesaid.

I Would Have had Represented all Matters in a Clear Light to you Concerning this Affair Before General Clarks Departure from Washington County, Could I Have Had the Benefit of the Last Express that Has been Sent to you from this County which Perhaps Might have altered the whole of the Above Mentioned Proceeding,

* See p. 141.

But Contrary to all Promises it was sent unknown to me after Haveing all in Readyness to send to your Excellency concerning the same.

I would Recommend William Cooper as Ensigne of Capt Thomas Stockleys Company as He has Nearly Raised his Quota of Men and the Company has been thirty Eight Rank & file when it was sent to General Clark.

I Think it would not be any thing amiss to Send Cloathing for a Full Company as I Expect the said Company Will in a Short time be Compleated and Cloathing has been Promised them this Fall at the time of their Enlistment.

If you should think Propper to send Clothing for the Troops I would Recommend them to the Care of the Bearer William Cooper who acted as Ensigne in Capt Thos Stockleys Company Since the Twepty Eighth Day of April Last.

Present my Complyments to the Members of Council and Except the same from him who is with Great Esteem,

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient Humble Servant,

CHRISTOPHER HAYS.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

In Favour of
Ensigne Cooper.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I have the honor to inclose you an Act of Congress of the 23^d instant,* which I trust will be pleasing to the parties concerned. A multitude of other business of more importance has delayed this act of Justice rather too long, but if the owners of the leaden spouts taken for the public use are paid the full value of them even at this time, I would hope they will excuse the omission hitherto.

I am Sir,
with the utmost regard
Your Excellency's most obedient
humble Servant,

THO. M'KEAN, President.†

Philadelphia,
August 25, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire.

* See page 366.
† See Col. Vol. Rec., XIII., p. 41.

Sec'y Matlack to Major McConnell, 1781.

Sir,

The Council request you will please to muster such men as shall be brought for that purpose by Major Parr, agreable to the enclosed recruiting instructions and make return of them to the Council.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

T. M., Sec'y.

Phila^d, Augt 27th, 1781.

Directed,

To Major McConnell.

Pres. Reed to Archibald McClean, 1781.

Your Favours of the 13th & 18th Inst.* came safely to Hand. In the Multiplicity of other Business the Time has escaped us for taking Michael Danner's Testimony by the 28th; but that no farther Time may be lost we enclose a Resolve of Council† empowering Col: Hartley to proceed in the Business. We have been less concerned on this Occasion as we find there are some Doubts raised among the Gentlemen of the Law as to the Mode of perpetuating Evidence under the Constitution, but as there is to be a Process of this Nature in the next Supreme Court, we suppose all Terms will be fully settled, & when the Supreme Court sits in the County there will be an Opp^y to have the Business finished so as to prevent any Cavils or farther Objections. It is a sort of Chancery Process which is entirely new in this State, & not much practised in any other, so that it will be necessary that whatever is done should be effectual not only in the present Case but as a Precedent in others.

I communicated to the Council your Brother's Letter, & afterwards delivered it to the Surveyor Genl. The account he gives of the Proceedings in the new County is confirmed by other Advices, & we are sorry to find so unhappy a spirit prevailing. We have wrote fully to Mr. Scott & Col. Marshall on the Subject, & hope that by the Time this reaches you these Irregularities have ceased. Genl. Clark had no other authority from this State than to take such Volunteers as might offer, & to purchase Provisions. At the same Time we must observe that at a Genl. Meeting of the principal Inhabitants both of Virginia & Pennsylv., the Expedition appeared so beneficial to the latter that the Lieutenants of both joined to promote it, & agreed that 300 Men should be furnished. We apprehend that Parties have taken too deep Root, and that there are too many who avail themselves of the Dis-

* See pages 352 and 359.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 44.

pute of Boundary & withhold their Service from the Publick—a Disposition which ought to have no Countenance whatever. Effectual Steps will be taken with Respect to your Brother; indeed we cannot suppose they will pretend to detain him when they see the Commission we have sent him.

We are much obliged to you for your Remarks & Observations to which we shall allways pay a due Regard.

I am Sir,

with much Esteem,

Your Obed. Hb'ble ser.

J. R.

Directed,

Archd. McClean, Esq.

Indorsed,

August 27th, 1781.

Mons. Oster, French V. C., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphie le 27 Août 1781.

Monsieur!

Mr. le Comte de Barras, Commandant la flotte du Roy à Newport, désirant que tous les Matelots et autres gens de Mer Français, qui peuvent être dans Philadelphie et ses environs, soient arrêtés et gardés jusque dans les derniers jours de Septembre prochain, je me propose en conséquence sous votre bon plaisir, Monsieur, d'en faire faire la recherche; mais comme pour y parvenir, il sera nécessaire d'avoir une garde de 4 ou 6 hommes armés, J'ai l'honneur en l'absence de Mr. Holker, de suplier Vôtre Excellence, d'avoir la bonté de m'accorder la permission de faire prendre cette garde, à la volonté des connétables qui seront employés à cette recherche.

La demande de Mr. le Cte. de Barras, aïant pour but la suite d'un service intéressant, j'espére que Vôtre Excellence trouvera bon de déférer à ma suplication. Les recherches de nuit, commenceront ce soir, si l'ordre desiré peut être expédié.

Je suis avec autant d'attachement que de respect,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très

obéissant serviteur

OSTER.*

Son Excellence Monsieur le Président Reed.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 53.

PRES. REED TO BRIG. GEN. IRVINE, 1781.

Sir,

I received your Favour of the 9 Inst.* ℔ Mr. Blaine who returned before I had Time to prepare an Answer. The Movements of the British Army having relieved us from Apprehension for the Prisoners we have in Concert with Gen. St Clair been endeavouring to arrange & equip the Troops now in the State which we compute at 500. Capt. Zeigler has accordingly received very sufficient Supplies for that Number consisting of Shirts, Shoes, Overalls, Hats & Hunting Shirts, blue Cloth not being procurable at any Rate or Price. I have also the satisfaction to inform you that Capt. Mason from Amsterdam acquaints us that Mr. Searle has succeeded in that Part of his Mission which relates to Military Stores, that he was shipping them early in the Summer on Board a ship of most respectable Force so that they may be hourly expected. Capt. Mason having been taken & his Letters destroyed we have no particulars but are much flattered by the Prospects he gives us.

As soon as I received your Letter due Inquiry was made with Respect to the Supply of the Post at York & it appears that Col. Blaine & his Brother had taken that Contract that the Brother had expected Instructions & Money from Philad. which not receiving he came down here, but his Brother & Mr. Morris were all at Camp, However I endeavoured to bring him back as fast as possible & hope that by this Time the Matter is in a more favourable Train.

You have judged very properly with Respect to the Nature of Mr. Morris's Engagements on Acc^t of the State. But should any like Embarassment arise or any Deficiency of Provisions be apprehended, it will undoubtedly be proper to address him either in the first Instance or thro' the Medium of the Board of War.

There seems at present a Prospect of a considerable Part of our Army going to the Southward, Gen. Washington has ordered all our Recruits thither which is a pleasing Circumstance as the Division of the Line is very inconvenient on many Accounts,

I am Sir, with much Esteem

your obed. Hb'ble Ser.

J. R.

Directed,

Brig. Gen. Irvine, Carlisle.

Indorsed,

August 27th, 1781.

* See page 345.

Pres. Reed to Thomas Scott, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Your Favour of the [31?*] Ult. has been duly received, & by this Opp'y you will receive the several Commissions requested in Addition to that already sent you. We also send the Commission of the Peace for the County, & are extremely sorry that we could not consistent with the Act of Assembly insert Mr. Stevenson's & Mr. Parker's Name, but by referring to both the Acts of Assembly which direct the Appointment of Justices, you will see that we are limited to two for each Township, saving the District of the County Town. We are also of Opinion that the Return for Fallow-field is too incorrect to admit of any Appointment, & have therefore returned it; we cannot distinguish between the Ends of that Township, as it is an entire Thing; if too large it ought to be divided or the Number of Magistrates increased by pursuing a Mode directed by a late Act of Assembly. A new Election will give the People an Opp'y of appointing Mr. Stevenson if they think proper, & the Powers of the Council are sufficiently ample to place him at the Head of the Bench agreeable to the general Desire & Opinion. We have sent a Dedimus Potestatem to administer the Oaths, & we hope that great Care will be taken at the Election that no Person be admitted to vote who does not take the Oath of Citizenship presented by the State. We regret as much as any of the Inhabitants of the County can do the Delay of running the Line, but the Season was too far advanced before we got the Answer from Virginia to admit of the astronomical Observations which are necessary for an exact & accurate Performance of this important Post. The Month of May is agreed by our Men of Science to be the only proper Period, & there are divers Instruments necessary, which it will take some Time to prepare. However being sensible of the Importance & Necessity of some Boundary, as soon as we found it impracticable to execute the Business this Spring we proposed to the State of Virginia a temporary Line, extending Mason & Dixons to the Ohio, or 28 Miles—they accepted the latter, & about a Month ago we sent off a Commission to Alex^r McClean, Esqr, appointing him our Agent for this Purpose. We hope that by this Time he has engaged in the Service, as we learn from Col. Marshal that the Gov. of Virginia had appointed their Agent. I have been thus particular as well to obviate any Mistakes on this Subject as to show you how anxious we have been to run the Line, & that the Delays have been unavoidable. We received the inclosed Letter from Mr. Brackenridge, which holds forth some Ideas very different from the real State of this Business so far as respects this Business, & we hope he is equally mistaken in the Sence or Intentions of the Inhabitants of that Country to add to the publick Calamity or their own Distress

* See Page 324.

by Claims & Pretensions which however they may serve the Views of some designing Men, tend to injure the publick Tranquillity & sow the Seeds of Discord.

With Respect to Genl. Clark's Proceedings we can only say that he has no Authority from us to draught Militia, much less to exercise those Acts [of?] Distress which you have hinted at & which other letters more particularly enumerate. His Expedition appears to us favourable for the Frontiers, as carrying Hostilities into the Indian Country rather than resting totally on the defensive. We find the Gentlemen of Westmoreland however differing in other Things to have agreed in Opinion that his Expedition deserved Encouragement, we therefore wrote to him that he had our good Wishes & that we should recommend it to our Inhabitants to assist him by turning out Volunteers & supplying him with Provisions at Market Prices but we could not incur any Expense in the present exhausted State of the Treasury. If you have an Opp'y of seeing Col. Marshal he will show you a Copy of our Letter to Gen. Clark. At the same Time we cannot help expressing our Fears that too many excuse themselves under Pretence of unsettled Boundary, some deny any Duty & seek to transfer it entirely to those who are willing & active. After the general Concurrence of the Lieutenants of Westmoreland in the Expedition & agreeing to raise 300 Men, we should have been glad to have heard that the County of Washington had assisted in a Measure which seems to us to have been calculated for their own Safety in particular as well as the Publick in general.

The Indians have met with a severe Stroke to the Northward, having lost in an Ambuscade 60 or 70 with all their Baggage, &c., which has given great Relief to our Frontiers on Susquehanna & Delaware, & as their Depredations have not been so great in your Quarter as we apprehended, we imagine the Expectation of Clark's Expedition must have had some Effect. Our publick Affairs in general wear a favourable Aspect, the Paper Money is appreciating —we daily expect a French Fleet on our Coast to operate ag^t New York or Cornwallis in Virginia. We have Reason to think Mr. Adams will soon be received in Holland as a Minister in Form. Mr. Searle is daily expected, having as we are informed (by a Captain of a Vessel who was taken & threw the Letter overboard) succeeded in that Part of his Mission which procured us military Stores of various Kinds, which may be hourly expected. Gen. Washington lays about 30 Miles from New York, the Arrival of the Reinforcements of Hessians at New York having made any Attempt there too hazardous.

Indrosed,

1781, August 27th, To Thomas Scott, Esqr, Washington County.

Pres. Reed to Hon. Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

We duly received & acknowledge the Communication made to us in your Favour of the 23d Inst. We have not been without Apprehension that the Nature & Extent of your Engagements would make some speedy Assistance from the State convenient if not indispensably necessary, we have not therefore ceased urging the Commissioners of the Taxes to proceed with all possible Dispatch, expecting from their Exertions not only a Supply for the Treasury but an immediate effect on the Credit of the Paper. Should our Hopes in the latter Point be realized we trust that with the Powers you possess over the Treasury & the Advances that may be made you will be enabled to proceed in your proposed Plan. Since we wrote you last we have the Satisfaction to learn that there is great Reason to believe Mr Searle has succeeded in a Part of his Mission, viz: the Procurement of Military Stores & other Articles which will relieve our Treasury from some present heavy Expenditures & of course enable it to give you more ample & solid Support. The Letter having been thrown over board in Consequence of Capture we have no farther Particulars than from Captain Mason's verbal Account who also adds that Capt Gillam in a Vessel of respectable Force was taking in the Stores on Account of the State & to sail in such a Time as to give us Reason to expect them daily.

I am, Sir, with much Respect

Your Obed. Hble Serv.,

Directed,—Hon. R. Morris, Esq., Superintedt, &c.

Sec'y Matlack to John Hart, 1781.

Philada, 28th, Augt, 1781.

Sir,

The bearer Capt A. G. Claypoole of the third Penna Regt, appointed to receive the recruits of Bucks County, is ordered by Genl Sinclair now to attend to that duty at Newtown, and as there is no Post in that neighborhood at which he can draw rations, the Council order me to request you will please to procure board at some private house-keepers while he continues on that duty, at the most reasonable rate at which the same can be obtained. The Council have adopted this mode of providing for Capt Claypoole from the absolute necessity of the case & to avoid the precedent of subsistence money, and they confide in your prudence and discretion in making the necessary provision at a reasonable rate.

I am, &c.,

T. M., Sec'y.

Directed,—To John Hart, Esqr, Bucks Co.

Pres. Reed to Col. Wm. Coats, 1781.

Sir,

We duly received your Application in Behalf of the 7 Months Men. We are very sensible of the Difficulties the Lieutenants & Sub Lieutenants have had but when it is considered that the Pay of those Men was not engaged to them by the State, that they considered it as of little or no Value & therefore received a large Bounty we really think there is little Foundation for their Complaints. Nor is there any Reason for supposing the Lieutenants were to pay them because they entered them into the Service. They were Continental Soldiers to all Intents & Purposes & the Soldiers who are now in the Service have not yet received their Pay for those very Months which these Men served. The Congress has not even requested the State to pay them so that should it be done the whole Expence would fall on the State tho their Service was Continental. Whenever Pay is drawn for that period of Service it will be on the Pay Rolls of the Regiment as they then stood in which these Men will be included, and we will take Care that they shall have publick Notice when & where to apply. Untill that Time we are of Opinion they must wait & that as they are in no worse a Predicament than the other Soldiers now in Service they cannot have great Reason to complain.

I am Sir.

Directed,
Col. Coats, Lieutenant.

Pres. Reed to Col. Robert Levers, 1781.

Sir,

We duly received your Letter of the 28d Inst. The mode of procuring Provisions for the Militia we fear will be a Source of great Discontent to the other Counties who pay hard money Taxes should they find that the County of Northampton has paid their Taxes in Produce, especially at a higher Rate than the current market Prices & from the Prices stated in a former Letter we have Reason to apprehehend this would be attempted.

We have also found Certificates so liable to abuses that we cannot think of opening the Door a second Time. But that we may do every Thing in our Power for the Relief of the Frontiers we have sent you an Order signed by Mr. Rittenhouse on the Treasury for £100 payable out of the first money received for Taxes. This we think must shew clearly our favourable as well as punctual Attention to the Distresses of the exposed Parts of your Frontiers; And if it does not prove sufficient to draw Supplies from the County & the Militia break up, we think the Consequences must be imputed to

the County itself. Upon this Order we hope you will be able to obtain Credit & then with it discharge the Debt which may be contracted.

Your Observation with Respect to temporary Guards of Militia is very just, the Practice tends to great Inequality of Duty & leaves Room for Partiality, we therefore entirely approve your Plan of hiring men for those small Services & charging it in your Account. We are also, much pleased with the Attention shewn by Col. Balliet & yourself in visiting the Posts & insisting upon the Officers doing their Duty. The Militia can be of no Use proportional to the Expense if the Officers take the Liberties you mention.

With Respect to the Charges of holding the Court Martial we never yet had any similar Demand made the officers having always considered it as a Part of Duty, but as this may be an extraordinary Case we think the reasonable Expenses of the Court may be properly paid out of the Militia Funds. The Pay of the Court is so novel a Demand that we will consider farther upon it & give you our Opinion in the next Letter. The Witnesses will be included in the Expences of the Court very properly.

The calling on the five Companies over the mountains to act as Guides appears to us to be a useful mode of employing them but as we do not know for what Reason it was disapproved by the People we cannot give any positive Opinion on this Point: But should you call the next Class before you hear from us on this Subject we would have you pursue the mode as you have proposed it.

I am &c.

Directed, Col. Rob. Levers, Lieut. of Northampton.

Capt. A. G. Claypoole to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philad^a, August 28th, 1781.

Sir,

I yesterday received General St Clair's Order to proceed immediately on my Command to Newton and was under the painfull Necessity of informing him, it was utterly impossible in my present Circumstances, on which he desired I would again apply to Council in order to prevent the disagreeable Consequence which must follow a Disobedience of Orders. I therefore hope your Excellency, on considering the peculiar Circumstances we labour under, will put it in my Power to obviate so mortifying an Event.

I have the honour to be,
with great Respect
Your Excellency's most
Obedient Servant,
A. G. CLAYPOOLE, Captn 3^d P. R.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr., President of the honourable Supreme Executive Council.

CHRISTIAN WIRTZ TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Sir

There remains a Quantity of Flour, Short Forage, and a few Ton of Hay on Hands, The Flour and Forage are in Mills in the County and in danger of spoiling if not soon made use of, I therefore beg Council will give their Determination what method's are to be taken with the same in order that my Acco't with the State may be closed finally.

I am Sr

yr most obedient & Humble Servt,

CHRISTIAN WIRTZ, late C. P. L. C.

Philadelphia, August 29th, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr., President of the State ef Pennsylva.

COL. DAN. BRODHEAD TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Fort Pitt, Augt. 29th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Since my last (except what I lately communicated to Congress, and which I doubt not hath been shown you) only one man hath been killed by the Indians.

Mr. Duncan is anxious to proceed to Philada. & settle his accts. with the States but as it is not known when a Contractor may arrive to furnish provisions for these Troops, his exertion having been considerable I cannot see how he can be sparred, for unless a sum in specie adequate to our wants is speedily furnished, and some other person employed to purchase, his absence might ruin us in this district.

The Marylanders having in a body deserted from their posts on the frontier of Westmoreland County and marched to the other side of the Mountains, I have reason to believe the remaining Corps will soon follow their example unless care is taken to have them properly clothed & fed.

I have the honor to be,

with perfect respect,

your Excellencies most obed. Servt.

DANIEL BRODHEAD.

Council to Thomas Bradford, 1781.

In Council, Philadelphia, August 29th, 1781.

Sir,

Being disappointed in procuring the most authentick intelligence brought by the flagg from Providence in order to transmit it to General Washington, I find myself obliged to notice the general neglect shown to the authority of the State on these occasions. Flags come and go, prisoners arrive, and the most important intelligence is received and finds a currency thro' the city, while persons in publick office, and to whom it is often highly important have no communication but from common report. You must be sensible that this is not the practice of any other state, nor of any Country in time of War. I have therefore to desire that you would in future make the Communication of the arrival of flags and of prisoners, publick papers, &c. Your office necessarily implies this duty and I cannot but hope that after this notification you will comply with the established practice of other States and Countries on like occasions.

I am Sir,

Your obedient and very humble Servant,

David Duncan to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Pittsburg, August 30th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to Inform you that its out of my power to come down as soon as I did expect to settle my accounts, I have been call'd on by Mr. Morgan to come down by the Twentieth of the Month. I should have sent them e'er now, but a few days after I was call'd on by Mr. Harris to come down by the fourth of Next Month to make a final Settlement of my accounts; and at the same time I was informed there was to be Contractors to be appointed to supply the Troops on this side the Mountains, as I must supply the Troops, untill the Contractors takes place makes it altogether out of my power to leave this place, till' he or they get a supply, and when that is done, I will soon be down to settle my accounts finally were the Distance less I would not think hard to go oftener, even before I be able to settle, but could wish to make one errand for all. I have been very hard set to furnish the Troops with provisions, the Beef is scarce, but not that alone, but no paper money will pass on this side the Mountain, at any rate at all, and for Flour its now getting scarce as the Mills have been Dry the most of the Summer, the people in General will not sell it without the Hard money, and that in hand; I assure you I have to give my own notes, for to get provisions to

supply the Troops untill the Contractors take place. I hope that some person may be soon sent here to supply the Troops by Contract or otherwise as I want to Come down and make a final settlement with Council; I have some money in my hands yet, but cannot think of Letting it go, unless I get the Value of it. I mean to discharge some small debts on the Frontiers to those who will accept of it, but those are few, the most of them being in expectation of Getting Gold and Silver at a future day. I have drawn on you in favour of Mr. William Wilson for Four Hundred & forty seven Pounds, eleven & three pence in Specie, which I hope you will pay in Hard Money or the Exchange of it, you may think it is dear but Necessity obliged me to give the price for no other person would Trust the public at that time, and he then sold them at a Disadvantage they not being at their prime, but want obliged me to take them as they were, neither did I do it of myself, but was urged to it by the Commander of this place, who I am informed have wrote you on the same Matter, no one Man in this Side the Mountains besides himself had so Many Cattle to dispose of and they were all Delivered here without any expence accrueing to the Public, if you dont pay the draught, my Credit is Ruined and I must pay it myself if it would ruin me for ever, by this you may see how far it will serve me, and the Public in paying this Draught, and preserving both our Credits.

I have the Honor to be,

y^r Excellencys obedient and Most Hbbl. Servt.

DAVD. DUNCAN,

Comissr. W. County.

Public Service.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed Esqr., Philadelphia.

Honor'd by Mr. Wilson.

W. CLARKE AND W. ANTES TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Sunbury, Augt. 30, 1781.

Sir,

We acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 25th of June last,* with the Law lately passed for the Supplies of the Current Year. The Execution of that Law has been the subject of our most Serious deliberation. Believe us, Sir, it is with the utmost pain, and yet, greatest truth, that we are obliged to declare our utter inability to Comply with the Demands of that Law. We now know that all the inhabitants in this County are not Equal in numbers to those of some Townships in the interior Countys. Those who have property sufficient to support themselves are removed and gone. Shall then the Quota of the County be Levyed on the

* See page 226.

miserable few that remain; Their whole personal property, if removed to a place where hard Cash could be had for it, and sold, would not pay the tax. The old returns will not do, as a Rule to lay a Tax on Absentees. The improvements are grown up, burnt or destroyed, the personal property removed and now paying tax in the lower Countys. As to the men for the Supply of the Federal Army, (if those already inlisted are excepted) they are not to be had here without taking the heads of Familys, and those, we well know, cannot to be had, as no money whatever would induce them to abandon their Familys in our Situation. We Sincerely wish to render a Ready Obedience to all Laws of the State, But in our Circumstances, it intirely puts it out of our power. We beg you, Sir, to Consider this as the Language of Genuine Truth, Extorted from us by Distressing Neccesity. And that we are, Sir, with the utmost Respect,

Y^r Excellency's most H'ble & Obed't Servt^s,

WALTER CLARK, } Commiss^r.
WM. ANTES. }

Directed,

(Public Service.)

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of State of Pennsyl^a, Philadelphia.

Pres. Reed to Col. James Wood, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 16th Inst., inclosing a Return of Provisions impressed &c., came safely to Hand. We have no Doubt the Powers have been used with as much Tenderness as the Case admitted, but we must observe that it involves great Dissatisfaction & Uneasiness, even when done under the Authority of the State, & much more under one of a doubtful, perhaps an improper kind. We have directed Col. Lutz, our Commissioner, to settle with the People as soon as possible. The frequent Change of Officers on the Guard we can easily conceive to be in many Respects, inconvenient, but we fear it is an Evil to which we must submit, as the least. Should one officer continue, or one sett of Officers, it would be a Source of great Discontent among the Militia, who are too apt to suspect Partiality, & in many Instances, rather to exaggerate than palliate Deviations from the Law, however beneficial to the Service. By the Spirit of our Law it is intended to draw the whole Militia into service, by Rotation, in such a Manner that the Burthen may not only be equal, but the Officers & Men become instructed in the several Parts of their Duty. Should we, therefore, confine ourselves to a few, this last Point

would be neglected. You will also be pleased to observe that the Inconvenience is constantly lessening, as in Time there will be on every Tour of Duty some who will be so well acquainted with it as very much to lessen your Trouble.

Your good Sense & Knowledge of Militia, will, we are persuaded, make it quite unnecessary to enumerate the Difficulties which attend the Service, & how necessary it is to keep them in as good Temper as possible.

I am, with much Esteem,

Sir, Your Obed. & very H'bble Ser^t,

J. R.

Indorsed,

Aug. 31, '81.

Directed,

Col. James Wood, Superintending officer of the Prisoners at Reading.

Resolution of Congress—Mons. Holker—Consul General, 1781.

The United States in Congress assembled.

Augt 31st, 1781.

Resolved,

That upon presenting to the United States in Congress assembled his Commission as Consul General of France, an act be thereupon passed recognising him in his proper Character.

That upon the delivery thereof, the Exequatur* or a public Notification of the Quality of shall issue from the supreme executive power without fee or perquisite of office.

Resolved,

That until the Ratification of some Convention respecting consular power between his most Christian Majesty and the United States, the same Mode of Recognition be observed.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec^y.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir.

We duly received your Favour of this morning & should be glad to facilitate the Business of the Contractor if it is in our Power; But upon considering the Act of Assembly & creating the Excuse we apprehend it would be an Extension of Authority in which we

* See page 390.

are not warranted. How far it may be a general Inconvenience or produce Difficulties between the States we cannot pretend to say, but we think the Indulgence very capable of Abuse & therefore more proper for the Consideration of the Legislature who if they deem a Relaxation expedient will at the same Time guard against any Provision or to undue Purposes.

I am Sir, &c.

Indorsed,
September 1st, 1781.
Directed,
The Hon. R. Morris,

George Bryan to Sec'y Matlack, 1781.

Philadelphia, 1st September, 1781.

Sir,

I have examined the Deed drawn by Mr. Weiss for lots on the province Island. The content thereof is 41 Acres & 28 perches; whereas the deed expresses 41.20a only. There is a blank for the width of a road, which requires 30 to fill it. When these particulars be set right, this deed may pass. The day of the date & the day for paying the vender of an acorn you will fill as usual.

But I must not conceal from the Hon' President & Council, that having attended the sales of the first three of these Lots, n° 20, 19th May, 27 & 28 on the 29th of May, I well know that a person of the name of Alston & not Mr W. Bingham was the actual purchaser. On looking over the returns to the Treasurer made just after each sale, I found Mr Alston's name in the Accounts of Sale. Afterwards Mr. R. was acquainted that Mr. A. bought for Mr. B. and that the latter was to be considered as the purchasor. Accordingly Mr. Bingham has obtained the inclosed Certificate. Besides the inconveniences hereafter experienced by this practice, I must suggest the striking difference which would be made by passing this deed, between the Consul of France & Mr. Bingham. Mr. Holker must, upon hearing of such a transaction, consider himself as singled out for affront. I suspect that upon calling for the original Entry of June 16th, the last sold Lot, n° 21 is, will be found in the name of Alston likewise.

I have little to say about the other deed to Elijah Wood for Lot n° 1 of the Province Island, save that the Consideration which doth not fully appear by the Certificate, is £817 11 10. It is otherwise accurate.

I am Dr Sir,
your very hum' Serv',
GEO. BRYAN.

Directed,
To Timothy Matlack, Esquire.

Minute Respecting Province Island, 1781.

Agreeable to an act of the General Assembly entitled "an act &c. here insert the title" the Supreme Executive Council are impowered to reserve Such & So many of the forfeited Estates yet unsold and unappropriated as to them Shall appear necessary in order to create a Certain fund for the maintenane of the Provost, Vice Provost, Master & assistants and to uphold and preserve the Charitable School of the University, Provided that the yearly income of Such Estates So reserved and appropriated to the use of the University, do not exceed fifteen hundred pounds computing wheat at ten Shillings per bushell. Therefore resolved, That are appointed to Value upon oath a certain Tract of Land in the Co of seized & forfeited as the Estate of to this Commonwealth in order that the said Estate may be appropriated to the Use of the University agreeable to the Directions of the aforesaid act of General Assembly.

Capt. Jacob Christie to Council, 1781.

The Honorable The Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

A report of the treatment of the Troops and of the conduct of some of the Civil & Staff officers in the County of Northampton should have been presented to you before this time, but I waited for some intelligence relative to the facts here laid before you.

'Squire B———, of Easton, refused to give orders for quartering several officers, which reduced these to great inconveniences, & was consequently a hurt to the service.—Evidence, Lieutts. Pelegrew and Smith, Doctor Stewart & myself.

He also, after some meat had been condemned by a board of officers as unfit for use, met with some others & declared it fit. This, I aprehend, legaly could do us no injury, but, as it tended to destroy the people's faith in us, was a hurt to the service.—Evidence, The proceedings of the Board will be produced, & he acknowledged to me that he had met & determined as mentioned. If other or further evidence is wanted, there is no doubt but it can be produced.

He likewise committed a certain ——— Messer to Goal on his acknowledging that he was a Deserter from the army of the United States, and afterwards set him at liberty.—Evidence: This appears by the Mittimus & Releasment in possession of Mr. Miler, the Gealor at Easton, 'Squire Levers, & a Mr. Buss of Easton.—This Deserter when I had him taken was in the service of a Capt. Buss of the Militia, about two miles from Easton, who endeavoured to

conceal him, as Lieutt. Reid, who I sent after him, reported to me. Said Mr. Buss is evidence that he acknowledged before 'Squire Berlin that he was inlisted for three years, the term which it was said he was to serve this Capt. Buss.

The Commissary departmt. as it was conducted, if not faulty, is at least very suspicious & deserves to be inquired into.—We received verry little meat but what we took more from necessity than because it was fit for use. The salt meat was verry much damaged, & the fresh exceeding poor. The fresh meat was not killed under the direction of the Issuing Commissary as is common, but of a Mr. Yoe, assistant, to Mr. D———, the Purchasing Commissary. The consequence was there was meat killed & condemned as unfit for use, which might have been saved to the States, had it been either sold or fattened.

The head and some parts of the beef, which used to be issued for twelve lb. in Rations, was not delivered to the issuing Commissary. I never could find there was any acct rendered of the Tallow. It would likewise be necessary to inquire upon what authority, and at what rate the shins were disposed of. There was at one time, I think, betwixt twenty & thirty sheep brought to Easton, and six of the fattest of them killed, five of which were condemned as unfit for use. The other one, a part of which was sent to me, was too poor for us. The remainder I requested Mr. Yoe to have fattened—about two weeks after I went to see whether they were fit for use, but had reported, that they were a few miles off, on very bad pasture & so poor that they would not be able to be drove to Town; & that there were a number of them gone. Evidence, 'Squire Levers, Capt Lt Bush, Lieutts Petegrew & Smith, Mr Anderson, issuing Commissary, Doctor Stewart & myself.

The reason why I have been so particular, is not only because the facts are criminal, but because I think they will lead to an enquiry which may be of service to the States: for I am fully of opinion that it will be found that the Troops being oblidged to eat unwholsome meat, sometimes being without it, the losses which have happened from condemnation & from straying or being stole from the pasture, are intirely the fault of the purchasing Commissary.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
your most obedient & most humble Servt,
JA. CHRYSTIE, Capt. 3d Rt.

Phila., Septr 1st, 1781.

Gen. St. Clair to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philada., Septr. 4th, 1781.

Sir,

I beg to be informed whether Council has agreed to Mr Morris's proposal about the Tents.—If it is agreed to, I will be obliged to you for an Order to receive them, as the General has ordered me

immediately to draw the Troops together to York Town, which you are sensible cannot be done without Tents, for it is impossible to quarter five hundred Men in that Village, if the Inhabitants were ever so well disposed to accommodate them.

I have the Honor to be Sir,

your most obedient servant,

A^r St CLAIR.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

PRES. REED TO ROBERT MORRIS, 1781.

Sir,

Gen. St Clair has been very pressing to give up a Number of Tents, the Property of the State, for the Service of the United States. The great Difficulty we have had to equip the Militia; the low State of our Treasury, which forbids a Hope of soon replacing them; & the Impracticability of taking the Militia into the Field, in Case of Necessity, without Covering, would have made our Compliance very reluctant, if he had not accompanied his Request with an Assurance that you would in a short Time replace them. Our Anxiety to forward the Troops in a proper Manner, & the present Emergency, have induced us to give them up—At the same Time, we must express our earnest Desires that you would, as soon as possible, relieve us from our Apprehensions of the Difficulty which will ensue if the Militia should be called out in an unprovided State.

I am, Sir,

Your H'bble Servt.,

J. R.

Indorsed,

September 4, 1781.

PRES. REED TO COUNTY LIEUTENANTS, 1781.
(CIRCULAR.)

Sir,

The Operations of the Army under his Excell^y Gen. Washington —the Uncertainty of the Movements of the Enemy, & the great Events depending, render it necessary that the Militia should be in a State of Preparation, so as take the Field upon the shortest Notice.

You will therefore be pleased to signify to the several Battalions under your general Directions, that they are to be in Readiness to comply with the shortest Orders for actual Service; & in a particular Manner to acquaint the Gentleman Officers, that they will

render a signal Service to their Country in general, & the State in particular, by a strict & punctual Attention to these Requests, in which it will be essentially necessary to examine the State & Condition of the Arms, to make Returns of all Deficiencies. As the publick Armoury cannot give any considerable Assistance, they will be careful that all the Arms which have been delivered out may be accounted for.

I am, Sir;

Your Obed. & Hble. Servt.

To the Lieut. of the County of

Indorsed,

September 6, 1781.

PRES. REED TO GOV. LIVINGSTON, N. J., 1781.

Sir,

The Board at which I have the Honour to preside, contemplating the Contiguity of the Enemy at New York, the Distance at which the Army under his Excell^y Gen. Washington will soon be, & the Situation of Sr Henry Clinton, think it highly probable, that, either as a Diversion, or to ballance the Success of which we have so fair a Prospect, he will make an Irruption into your State, &, perhaps, extend his Views to this City: In Consequence of which they have ordered the Militia to be in Readiness at a short Warning, & taken such other Measures as Prudence dictates under such Apprehensions.

We should now be extremely obliged to your Excell^y for as early a Communication as possible of any Movements of the Enemy at New York, & especially such as denote an Incursion into your State, as we shall in that Case be glad to give any Assistance in our Power in opposing the Enemy, or retarding his Progress, untill superior Aid can be afforded.

I am, with very great Respect & Regard,

Your Excell^ys most Obed. Hble. Servt.

His Excell^y Gov. Livingston, New Jersey.

Indorsed,

Sept. 6, 1781.

CAPT. PHILIP SHRAWDER TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Lower Smithfield, Septr 6, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency's Request to turn my Men either to the Pennsylvania Line or to Captain Robinson's Company, I have endeavoured to put in Execution, but was disappointed, as the Men

amounting now to twelve, had, previous to their Engagements the greatest assurance from the most respectable Gentlemen of these Parts, that they should not be taken off but employed for the Defence of this County.

There is the greatest Probability for raising the Company in a very short Time, if Clothing and the first Bounty in hard Money could be tendered to Recruits. Of the Truth of this Assertion Esquire Van Campen has been partly an Eye Witness and partly by the assurance of my Officers both personally and by Letters.

The Success I met with in Recruiting since Col. Levers wrote to your Excellency on my Account is owing to the Kindness of Esquire Van Campen in advancing me some hard Money for that Purpose.

Mr. Godfrey Myers, formerly a Lieutenant in the flying Camp, and exchanged in December last, had been represented to me as a good Officer, in Consequence of which by Permission of the Honourable Council I had appointed him Ensign the 14th of April last, if your Excellency condescends to approve of the Choice I beg to grant him a Commission as such.

With the greatest Respect I have the Honour to be
your Excellency's
most obedient and
most humble Servant,
PHIL. SHRAWDER.

Directed,
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President, Philadelphia.

TIMOTHY PICKERING TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philadelphia, Septr 6, 1781.

Sir,

I am greatly obliged by your attention to my request of yesterday, respecting the tents wanted for the troops going Southward. I have this day written to Col^o Hughes, D. Q. M. for New York & the army left in that State, to forward twenty (or at least twelve) horseman's tents & one hundred common tents, of the best quality among those he shall receive from the eastward, as soon as they shall come to his hands; & to send off teams with them on purpose, rather than suffer a delay of two days. I have also left with Col^o Miles directions in writing to replace those you have been pleased to lend me immediately on the arrival of those sent for to Col^o Hughes. And as the tents borrowed are of a very good quality, I have desired Col^o Miles to replace them with others of the like quality; and lest the materials, tho' new, should be of an inferior quality, I have re-

quested him to give an additional number in that case, so as to render you a just equivalent.

I have the honour to be

with great respect, Sir, your most obed^t serv^t,

TIM. PICKERING, Q. M. G.

Directed,

Public Service.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr., President State of Pennsylvania.

PRES. REED TO HENRY OSBORNE, &c., 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Council are much pleased with the Spirit & Disposition shewn by the Citizens in the Proposal to illuminate the City, as it shows in what Estimation they hold our kind & benevolent Allies. But as great Events are depending which if prosperous will afford a brilliant Occasion of rejoicing, they think this signal Demonstration of Joy will be better reserved for some glorious Success—if any Disappointment should ensue, to which the Operations of War are peculiarly liable, our Enemies external & internal would triumph in it & the Insult would be aggravated by their Measures—A few Days will now open the Scene & we shall most cordially join in the publick Joy as well as give such Directions as will make an Illumination general & splendid—of which we do not think the Time will now admit for this Evening.

Indorsed,—Sept. 6, 1781.

FORM OF EXEQUATOR OF CONSUL GENERAL, 1781.

The United States in Congress Assembled.

September 7, 1781.

The following form of the exequatur, is recommended to the Supreme Executive Power of the several States.

To ALL to whom it may concern:

The Sieur Francis Barbe de Marbois, Councellor to Parliament, having been recognized by the United States in Congress assembled, as *Consul of France for the State of Pennsylvania, & consul general for the thirteen United States of America,* it is hereby declared, that the privileges, pre-eminence and authority belonging to such character and quality, are due to him.

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.*

*The words in Italic are probably merely used to show the manner of filling up the blank in the printed form—as on the 15th—"Sieur Holker is publicly recognized by President & Council as "Consul Gen'l of France in the Commonwealth,"—See page 383 See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 50. See also Sep. 12, p. 400.

Resolution of Congress.—French Seamen, 1781.

By the United States in Congress Assembled.

Septr 7th, 1781.

Ordered,

That so much of Mr. Holker's letter of the 14th of August, as relates to apprehending French seamen,* be transmitted to the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Extract from the Minutes,

GEO. BOND, Dep'y Sec'y.

Board of War to Pres. Reed, 1781.

War Office, Septr 8, 1781.

Sir,

The Board sent away to the Southward all the repaired Arms on Hand in Philadelphia. The Pennsilvania Detachment want about fifty Stand to complete them. If Council will be pleased to deliver to the order of S. Hodgdon, Esq., C. G. M. S., that Number of Arms the Board will be answerable that an equal Number shall be delivered in Return in the Course of a few Days.

We have the Honor to be,

with great Respect,

your very obed. Servants,

R. PETERS,

By order.

Directed,

(Public Service.)

His Excellency, President Reed.

War Office.

Pres. Reed to Board of War, 1781.

Gent.,

We duly received your Favour requesting the Loan of 50 Stand of Arms for the Use of the Pennsylvania Detachment & should chearfully have complied if in our Power; but we lately sent 50 Stand to Lancaster & the like Number to York for the Use of the Militia guarding the Prisoners of War we had great Difficulty in the low State of our Treasury to answer the Repair of them & are

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., pp. 53, 55.

at present utterly unable to comply with your Request. We learn by our Lieutenant from York County that there were a number of surplus Arms left at York when Gen. Wayne moved which are now there in good Order & may perhaps supply the Deficiency.

I am, &c.

Directed,

To Hon. The Board of War.

Indorsed,

September 8th, 1781.

CAPT. THOMAS ROBINSON TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Northumberland County, September 8th, 1781.

Sir,

I take this oppertunity of adressing your Excellency and Council in order to Inform you that the Clothing and amonition sent to this County is Com Safe to hand, the Savagis has been a Long time quiet this summer, the have Dun no harm in this County since I have been able with men to go to the woods to Scout, the Mead their appearance in harvist twist but Did no hurt, for as soon as wee found that the weir on our Coast wee Turn'd out and Gave Chase and wounded one, the Got off but has not mead their appearence Since, Lieut Vancamp and six men is just a going in to the Indian Country to Discover their moovs this fall and if he finds aney of them a Coming in to our fronteers I intend to waylay their march before the get in to the Setelment which will Stop their Designs unless their Body be very strong, and if strong itself wee shall be able to Rais the Cuntry to our assistance if early Discovered, Mr Smith who the Honourable Council had appointed a Surgeon for this County is Gon to the Suthord as I am informed but Mr Acker, is in this County and intends to Settel in it if Council thinks well of it, he is willing to act in that Cappassity, Doctor Shiping Can Recemend him as on that is Sutible.

I am with Due respect and Esteem

Your Excellencys

Most obedient Humble Sarvent,

THOs ROBINSON,

Capta P. Rangers.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Philadelphia.

By favor of

Mr Rien.

Gov. W. Livingston of N. J., to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Trenton, 8 Sep., 1781.

Sir,

I just this moment had the honour of receiving your Excellency's Lettter of the 6th Instant,* informing me that from our present Situation with respect to the Enemy, your Council had ordered your Militia to be in readiness at a short warning, and taken such other measures as prudence dictates, & desiring me to give you as early communication as possible of the movements of the Enemy at New York, and especially such as denote an Incursion into this State, & that you will in that case be glad to give any assistance in your power in opposing the Enemy, or retarding their progress until superior aid can be afforded.

I think that under those probable circumstances of the Enemy's making a movement, which your Excellency mentions, your State has acted with its usual Wisdom in taking the above precautions, & making all the preparations necessary against such an Event; and I am much obliged to you for the promised assistance. Our Militia will have the like orders, & (The Intelligence I received this day, by Express, from Newark, shows that such apprehensions are not groundless. The substance of that advice is, "that they had just received Intelligence from New York (which, says my correspondent, I think may be depended upon) that the enemy are embarking in good haste, & in great numbers, with a design to relieve Cornwallis, if possible. It is said (he adds,) & fully believed, that 6 or 7000 men are going, & that they are to land at Monmouth, & pass thro' this State."

Unfortunately for us, Sir, the Agent lately sent by our Legislature to the Massachusetts to buy lead, is returned without any, so that we are destitute of Ammunition. If your Commonwealth could possibly furnish us with a Quantity of Cartidges & some lead, & have it immediately sent to this place, with the Account, it will lay me under infinite obligations, & I will give a receipt for it, & apply to our Legislature for the payment, & should they not approve of the measure, of which, however, there is no reason to doubt, tho' I have no particular authority for that purpose, I will be personally responsible for the debt. I have the honour to be, with the greatest Esteem,

Your Excellency's most
Obedient & very humble Servt,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq.

* See page, 388.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By the United States in Congress assembled, Sep. 10th, 1781.

Resolved,

That it be, and hereby is recommended to the States of New Jersey and Pensylvania immediately to imbody Three Thousand Men each,* properly officered and equipped, and cause them to rendezvous at such place or places as the Commanding officer shall direct.

Extract from the Minutes.

CHAS. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Recognition by Congress of Mons. Holker, as Consul General, 1781.

By the United States, in Congress assembled, Sep. 10th, 1781.

A Memorial of the Hon'ble Minister plenipotentiary of France was read, enclosing a Commission of the Sieur Holker, Consul General of France in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Whereupon Ordered, that the said Commission be registered, and that the Act of Recognition be in the following Words:

By the United States in Congress Assembled,

It is hereby made known to all whom it may concern, that full Credence and respect are to be paid to the Sieur Holker, as Consul General of France, for the States of New York, New Jersey, Pensylvania and Delaware; which States are called upon respectively by Virtue of the powers delegated by the Confederation to the United States, in Congress assembled, to furnish the said Sieur Holker with their Exequator† or Notification of his Quality, delivering one Copy thereof to the said Sieur Holker, and causing another to be published in one or more Gazettes.

Done at Philadelphia, this tenth day of September; in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and eighty-one, and in the sixth year of our Independence.

By the United States, in Congress assembled.

Attest, CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII, p. 53. † See pages 390, 400.

Sec'y Matlack to Robert Morris, 1781.

Philadelphia, September 11, 1781.

Sir,

By His Excellency, the President & Council I am ordered to inform you that, agreeable to the requisition of Congress of the 10th instant, recommending "to the states of New Jersey & Pennsylvania "immediately to imbody three thousand men each, properly officered "and equipped, and to cause them to rendezvous at such place or "places as the commanding officer shall direct," they have ordered "three classes of the militia of the city of Philadelphia, four classes "of the county of Philadelphia, four classes of the county of Chester, "four classes of the county of Bucks, three classes of the county of "Lancaster, three classes of the county of Berks, two classes of the "county of Northampton, the whole of the Light Horse of the city "and the said counties, the whole of the Light Horse of the counties "of York & Cumberland, and two companies of Artillery. And "that the said Militia do rendezvous, as soon as possible, at New-"town, in the county of Bucks," which order, it is supposed, will produce, at least, 3000 men. You will perceive that this communication is now made to afford you the earliest opportunity of making provision for these troops, and should any alteration be made respecting the place of rendezvous, you will be immediately informed thereof.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
your most obedient, & very Humble servant,
T. M., Sec'y.

H'nble R. Morris, Esq.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive inclosed herewith an Act of Congress of yesterday, containing a requisition of three thousand Militia* of each of the States of Pennsylvania & New Jersey, to be properly officered and equipped. An apprehension of a sudden invasion of the State of New Jersey, and of an attempt on Philadelphia, by the Enemy at New York, gave rise to this recommendation; and the safety of both will, I rest assured, induce each State to make the most strenuous efforts on this occasion.

I wish you all manner of success in this arduous work, and that the machinations of our Enemies may be entirely defeated.

With the utmost respect & regard,
I am, Sir, your Excellency's
most obedient humble Servant,
THO. M'KEAN, President.

Philadelphia September 11, 1781.
His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire.

* See pages 388, 393.

Pres. Reed, to Col. Marsh, 1781.

Sir,

The Situation of Affairs & some Advices received from New Jersey induce me to recommend to you the getting the Field Pieces in order for Service on the shortest Notice & to request you to have an immediate & critical survey of them, so that all necessary repairs may be done, & Measures taken to have a supply of fixed Ammunition.

I am, Sir, your Obed. h'ble St.,

J. R., Pres.

Col. Marsh, Artillery.

Indorsed,
Sep. 11, '81.

Lieut. Col. Henry Geiger to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Most Honorable Excellency:

I Beg Leave to Approach your Excellency with this fue Linns, and I wish that these Presents feind your Excellency and Council in Good Health. By this teime I Can not fail to acquaint your Excellency and Council, That the Last Nineth Day of Sept. the Enemie Indians Did Attacked one of our Militia post on the Maconie Creek; But they obliged to Retreat without douing any Damage. The Day after, all the Militia on the Maconie Creek whas Called For to be Mustered by Sb. Liuetenant Shamber, and the Same Day the Said Militia whas Discharge, and no Militia whas on that post. The Day after the Militia whas gon hom, the Indians Com four mils this Side Maconie Creek, on the Leizar Creek, and attacked a family on the Josse Thomas Plantation; but the man and two Son made Their Escape; the Woman whas in the House when the Indian Came at the House, and they askst the woman for Eating, and the Woman was Ready to Give them Bread and milk, but they Whas not Satisfied with them; they Came on the fild and kilt Five Sheep and one Stire. After the woman Saw that they kilt all theire Chattels, She made her Escap, and Came Safe of. And after they hath kilt the Chattels, they put the Fire in The House and Barn, and from there they been gon to another Place, and kilt one young man and took two Prisoners, and Two Horse and kilt two Cows upon the Spot; all this being Done The Eleven Day of Sept, Six miles from my House, over The Blue montain; as Soon I whas Informed, we Come There, but the Indian whas Gon and Rain very hard, and Whas most night, we could not Go further. The next morning, We Could not feind any Tracks, becoss the Rain wetter, and by that Reason we Durn hom. I Pray your Excellency to Excuse Me that I make your Excellency too much Droubell with My Bad

Writing; then I whas never in the English School—But I Can not forbear to pray your Excellency to be So Kind To Give Such order to the Lieutenant of the County that the Militia May be paid; then it is Two year pass that they have not Receive any pay, and I whas Informed that the Militia in Philadelphia County being paid for their Duty; Therefore I Bag the favour of your Excellency to be Carefull for that. God Bless your Excellency and Council, and Preserve you all in Good Health and hapiness, and Safe your Excellency from all anietent; And I am, your Excellency, With Great Regard and Esteem, your Most Humble and obedient Servant,

HENRY GEIGER, Lt. Colonel.

Heidelberg 12th Day of September, 1781.

Directed,

To His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council.

Pres. Reed to Robt. Morris, S. F., 1781.

Sir,

We yesterday received a Requisition from the Hon. Congress to embody 3000 Men with all Expedition & to cause them to rendezvous at such Place as the commanding Officer shall appoint. We presume this Requisition to be founded on advices received that Sr Henry Clinton has in Contemplation some Enterprize as a Diversion in favour of L. Cornwallis which if directed agt this State will require the utmost Exertions of its Inhabitants. We have in Consequence ordered out so many Classes of the Militia as will make up the Number required or near it & have appointed Newtown in Bucks County as the Place of Rendezvous.—We are very sensible of the Difficulties & Expence that will attend this Measure & therefore shall not direct the actual March untill the Intentions of the Enemy are more clearly ascertained, but as the Arrangement of the Militia for Service is allways attended with some unavoidable Delay we have thought it proper to make every Preparation by which Expence will not be actually incurred so that if the Views of the Enemy should point to this State we may not be found wholly unprovided. Under this Consideration we have thought it necessary to communicate to you this Requisition that if there should be a Necessity for this Body of Men to go into actual Service the earliest Opp' may be afforded of making Provision for them: For which in the present State of our publick Treasury, I fear we must very much depend upon your Exertions & Assistance. Should any Alteration of the Rendezvous be made we shall immediately acquaint you therewith.

Inclosed I send you an Extract of a Letter from Gov. Livingston containing the Intelligence received by him from New York.

& am Sir,

Your most Obed

& very Hble Serv.

J. R.*

Indorsed,

September 12th, 1781. To Honble Robert Morris, Esqr, Superintendant of finance.

Robert Morris to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Office of Finance, 12 Septemr, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I am this moment favoured with your Excellencys Letter in Council of this date† enclosing an Extract of the Letter from Governor Livingston. I thoroughly approve of the Determination of your Excellency and the honorable Council not to incur any Expence untill the Intentions of the Enemy are clearly ascertained. If I were to hazard an Opinion It would be very clear that Sir Henry Clinton has no views against this State.

Your Excellency must be sensible that any Expence of Provisions which may be incurr'd must be defrayed from the Treasury of this State. The Money is already appreciated to two for one, and I am convinced it will be brought to Par if the Assembly take the further Steps which may be necessary.—In this Situation of affairs you will agree with me that every Thing which may retard that desirable Event ought if possible to be avoided. As the Place where the Militia will be called to action will be near the Banks of the Delaware and I can always command as much Flour in this City as will be wanting for an immediate Supply no previous Provision of that Sort is necessary, and as I cannot doubt that the People will cheerfully bring in their Cattle on the proper assurance of Payment I conceive it equally unnecessary to take any Steps at present for the procuring of Beef.

I should before this have acknowledged the Receipt of your Excellency's Favour dated in Council the fourth Instant‡. But I was delayed from the following Cause.—On Reflection I thought it possible that the Tents there mentioned might be wanted for the Militia and therefore I directed the Quarter Master to get them made intending if they could be procured in Season not to take the Benefit of your Promise to General Sinclair I am happy now to inform you that they will soon be ready. Permit me, Sir, at the same Time

* See also page 398. † See page 397. ‡ See page 387.

to express my acknowledgments for the Readiness shown by the honorable Council to forward the Public Service on that Occasion.

I have the Honor to be Your Excellency's
Most Obed. & humble Servant,
ROB^t MORRIS.

Directed,—His Excellency The President of the State of Pensilvania.

PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLIES TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Philada. Sept. 12th, 1781.

Sir,

We propose to furnish the Militia and Ranging Company's for Bedford and Westmoreland County's with provisions on the following terms, each Ration to be compos'd of the following articles, one pound of Bread, made of good flour, one pound of Beef, or three quarters of pork, one Gill of Whiskey, three pounds of Candles, eight pounds of Soap, for every Seven hundred Rations, two quarts of Vinegar and one quart of Salt for every hundred Rations at eleven pence half penny for each Ration, if the Contractors should not be able to procure the small articles, by furnishing an equivelant in Bread and Meat, agreed to by such person as shall be authoriz'd by his Excellency the President & Supreme Executive Council to be sufficient, the Person so authoriz'd his orders & Receipts to be sufficient Vouchers for the Contractors, for settlement, that the Lieuts. of each County be authoriz'd to furnish necessary Escorts in time of danger, that the Contractors shall not be obliged to issue provisions at any other posts than Bedford and Hannas Town, that any provisions by lying in store longer than six Months be damag'd to be at the loss of the State and paid for as Rations issued and in case of Capture by the Enemy of any provision from an Escort or where Magazines shall be directed to be deposited to be at the loss of the state and paid for as Rations issued by having proper certificates from such person as shall be authorized by Council, that it shall be in the power of such person so authoriz'd together with the Contractors to alter the Ration as to the species and description of the Meat, so often as shall be deemed convenient by both parties, that the Contractors be furnished by Council in advance with three hundred pounds specie to be deducted out of the first settlement, that his Excellency the President & Supreme Executive Council settle with the said Contractors every three Months and pay such sums as may be due to them, that the said Contract shall continue for one year from the first day of October next.

We have the Honor to be,
your Excellencys most obt. Hble Servt.
DAVID DUNCAN,
MICH. HUFFNAGLE.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esqr., President & Supreme Executive Council.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

Inclosed herewith your Excellency will receive an act of Congress of the 10th, instant, acknowledging the Sieur Holker as Consul General of France in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, & Delaware; and a form of an Exequatur,* or notification of his quality which is recommended as proper to be used by those States upon the occasion.

Similar forms are to be used in all such cases hereafter, as you will perceive by an act of Congress of the 31st of August† herewith also inclosed.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect,
Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,
THO. McKEAN, President.

Philadelphia September 12, 1781.

Directed,—His Excellency President Reed.

Abraham Smith Pres. Reed, 1781.

Cumberland County, Sepr 12th, 1781.

Sir,

I take the opportunity to inform your Excellency that the Class of Militia of this County ordered to Bedford is just Returned home the Inhabitants of that County met with no Disturbance from the Savages during the time they were there nor for a Considerable time before they went, only one man that was killed about Six weeks ago, there appear'd to be but three Indians, and no Signs of any Since being in these parts.

I am inclined to think that there will be no necessity to Call any more Militia to that Quarter this Season as Matters seems to be in such a settled state besides I believe it will be Impossible at this time to get men Supplyed, they had to Discharge the late Class Some time before there two months was up for want of Provisions.

I have Directed the light horse of this County to be in Readiness for field Service agreeable to order of Council, their number is about fifty their horses and Equipments Tolerable good only some of their Swords the last time I examined them were too little but they engaged to provide themselves with such as would be proper for the Service And I flatter myself that when they are called to the field they will make a respectable appearance and render essential service to the public, they have been called upon by Genl Irwine to go under his Command as Volunteer light horse. but that seemed something Disagreeable to them, but he has Since Countermanded his orders.

* See pages 390; 394. † See page 383.

The Genl has never applyed to me on the Subject. I saw his letter to the Capt. of the troop, his idea of the matter is very Different from the Conception I had either of the Resolve of Council founded on the demand of Congress or, your Excellency's letter to me of the 18th of June.* I find he is of opinion the resolve of Council respecting Volunteer light horse impowers him to call the whole Troop as Militia and that it will answer their tour of duty. I am Chearfully willing to give what aid and assistance is in my power to any Volunteers that may offer, yet at the same time I look upon myself and the Militia of this County to be bound both by the Militia law and the orders of Council, but I would wish to have your Excellency's further explanation of the Matter.

I have Called upon the Sub-Lieutenants for their accounts of all the Classes who have been called under the new Law, and I expect to be able to lay in a General account of the whole County in a short time, I have also since I was Informed of the Resolve of Assembly been useing ever exertion in my power to have the fines Collected, but there is Such a Scarcity of money of all sorts in this County that we can get but little done in that way and the peoples distance from any Market for their Produce makes it very difficult for them to be in a better Situation. I am Convinced that were their Property exposed to Sale that money Could not be had for it besides I think the law lays us under some difficulties Respecting Collectors, we have no other way but to depend upon the Constables of townships and many of them is not fit by any means for such a duty. Were we able to have the whole fines of the County Collected they will not be near Equal to the expences and pay of the Militia there are three Battalions over the north mountains that we will get no fines from, as they Generally go out in their tour, indeed the County in General has Served well, I hope to get some money for this County out of the treasury when the accounts is made up, the Militia who have Served and the Pennsylvania Volunteers are exceedingly uneasy about their pay, and they Choose to rest the whole Blaim on the County Lieutenant.

I would be obliged to Council to order 800lb of Powder and 600lb of lead and some flints for the use of this County. Capt. Johnston of the troop of light horse will wait upon your Excellency with this letter and if any amunition is to be had it can be put under his care who will have it forwarded to me.

I Have the Honour to be your Excellency's
most obedient and very Humb^l Servt,
AB^m SMITH.

Directed,—On Public Service.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Hon^d by
Capt. Johnston.

* See page 234.

Alexander McClean to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Union Town 13th, September, 1781.

Dr Sir,

I Received an appointment from your excellency some time agone to Run a Temporary Line between this State and that of Virginia, and having an unexpected opportunity, I thought proper to communicate to you the Occurances that have happened since my appointment Viz. the Packet you were pleased to send me was in Reality conveyed through the Virginia Channel, it lay at least a fortnight within a few miles of my habitation; tho' it made little difference as Mr. Maddison was then at Kenhaway and did not Return until the last of August; I have since conferred with him and he appears outwardly willing to Cooperate with me in the performance of the trust, yet appears warmly attached to the other State, Inasmuch as I am yet doubtful whether the matter will be ended this Season. However it may be, I am determined this day to wrisk it, this being the day appointed for Rendezvous. We have been much distressed in our preparations by Reason of sudden Excursions of the Enemy; Washington County being more immediately invested with the external as well as Internal Enemies of this State, your Excellencys Instructions Requireing the Lieuts. of that County to furnish the Guard prevented me from making application elsewhere which has occasioned at least a disappointment of ten days as I have attended the appointments already twice & the Guard or Maddison not in Readiness. Mr. Duncan has likewise met with difficulty in getting flour which occasioned me to Return to this place as I had flour prepared (and has had since March last) for that purpose daily expecting the Necessity of its being applied to that use, But by the by I would just hint my apprehensions I am doubtful Mr. Maddison is in Connection with the opposers of our Government, & as David said unto Gad, I am in a great Strait; the Commission you were pleased to send me was Sufficiently satisfactory to me, & I have given you Credit in behalf of the State over which you Preside for the formal Mode which is Represented therein, but you'll observe my power is under a Restraint confined to that of a Conjunction with the person who may be appointed on the part of Virginia, And there are amongst them who (if by Bribery, Corruption, opposition, or any means whatever) can prevent it being done you may Rely upon it, their Services will not be lacking; their Situations are desperate, they have no Other Refuge to fly to, but that of unwarranted opposition, their Wonted assylum which I am afraid will have too much Weight with the mislead, unguarded, unhappy Inhabitants of this State, the Expence will amount to more than I could wish it to be occasioned by the Encroachments of the Enemy on the frontiers at this Juncture, but more especially from the expected opposition of the Internal (I might almost say Eternal)

Enemies of this State, for when every other Refuge has failed them, I heard one of their own Council (such as it is) say that the Legislature of that State had not invested their Council with a power to make such a Determination, and made use of it as an argument touching the Validity of the appointment.

I have Inserted my fears but hope in a fortnight to be able to give you a more agreeable Information.

Your oblgd. & humble Servt.

ALEXANDER McCLEAN.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reid, President.

☞ favour Mr. Erasmus. Bochias.

ROBERT LEVERS TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Easton Seatember, 14th 1781.

Sir,

This evening I received an order from the Supreme Executive Council, to call out into service two classes of the militia of this county and the whole of the light Horse &c., which will be done without delay.

The Militia of the two classes to be called out, that live over the mountains on the frontiers, will without doubt apprehend the situation of their families so dangerous, as to wish to be exempted from this call, and to be permitted to remain on the frontiers for their defence; and no exception being in the order I beg to be instructed from council, sensible that the militia residing over the mountains will make application for such exemption.

Respecting the Corps of light horse to be formed out of the militia of this county it was attempted whilst Samuel Rea, Esqr., was Lieutenant, and officers were chosen some of whom afterwards declined, and there are not, I believe more than six persons, who have made any progress, or endeavoured to equip themselves properly, tho' I have frequently wrote to the Sub-Lieutenants on the subject, and they have done their endeavours that the corps might be compleated.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

ROBERT LEVERS,

Timothy Matlack, Esqr.,

Gov. Wm. Livingston to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Trenton, 14 Sep'r, 1781.

Sir,

I have received your Excellency's favour of the 11th instant, & at the same time the 300,636 cartridges furnished us by the Board of War. I cannot refrain from expressing my warmest acknowledgments to your Excellency for your Exertions to procure it from that quarter when it could not be had of your State, a mode I think more eligible than the other even could your Commonwealth have furnished it, but which did not occur to me at the time.

Clinton has a large number of Troops on Staten Island; & Colo. Seely commanding our three months men at Connecticut farms writes me, "that the Enemy are all on the move, & according to the best "accounts that he can get, a great number of them already embarked, "& a considerable number of flat-bottomed boats are got & getting "ready, but that their destination is unknown. He adds, "Sir "Harry told a person if I am rightly informed, that he would not "suffer the Troops to move until he knew the Event of the Fleet, & "that he would wait until Arnold returned from the Eastward."

With respect to the Scoundrel *last aforesaid mentioned*, (I have just received at verbal confirmation by some travellers from the Eastward of his having burnt New London,* & killed 80 of the Inhabitants, 76 of whom were bayonetted in cold blood—that his horse was shot under him, & his servant killed next to his side.) I believe he is not born to die in battle himself, but in Pomphiot's words, "to grace the gibbet & adorn the string."

If the 500 Troops your Excellency mentions should be ordered this way, I hope they will encamp in the County of Bucks in preference to that of Burlington till there is a necessity for them to march farther eastward. I have the honor to be with the greatest Esteem,

your Excellency's

most humble Servant,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr.

Pres. Reed to Hon. C. Hayes, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 25th Aug.† came duly to Hand, & we are sorry to learn that you have experienced a Renewal of Distress from the Savages at a Time when we hoped you would have been as effectualy

* New London burned, Sept. 6, 1781.—See Stillus, Vol. II., p. 172.

† See page 369.

relieved as Circumstances would admit. The Representations made by Col. Lochry & divers others Persons of Westmoreland, received very great Weight with us from your Concurrence which we must have presumed to be free & voluntary, & upon which our Approbation of furnishing Gen. Clark with Men was founded. We are sorry to learn that any Degree of Compulsion was used by that Gentleman & which our Letter to him by no means warranted, having explicitly countenanced no other Service by the Inhabitants of this State but what was voluntary. How far this Expedition may be calculated to promote the particular Interests of Virginia we cannot determine, but it seems reasonable to conclude that as the same Tribes of Savages which annoy that State commit the Depredations on ours, an Expedition ag^t them must be of Use to us as either destroying them or keeping them at Home to defend their own Country. We hope the Event will shew this Opinion to be just—if not we cannot account for the Conduct of many of the Inhabitants of Westmoreland, whose safety & Interests are concerned in the Security of this State. You observe that Col. Broadhead is forming an Expedition against these very Towns which we do not perfectly understand, & fear it will produce a Clashing of Operations & Interests injurious to the common Cause.

We are sorry to find also that the Election of Justices for Washington County has not been harmonious, had the Objections come in Season it is probable we should have delayed the Commission, but the Express arrived with the Returns of the Election made on the Day appointed by Law, & no Objections appearing except an Irregularity in one Township, we issued the Commissions for the Persons returned to us as highest in Votes except in the Case of the Township above ment^d, wherein we directed a new Election. We have given Mr. Cooper a Commision agreeable to your Recommendation, & he has been very pressing for a Sum of Money to pay the Rangers for two Months, for which we have referred him to you, and if there is no Objection the Council desire you would out of the Money you took up, pay the Officers & privates the Pay for two Months. We have the Pleasure to inform you that their Money is appreciated to two for one & we have a fair Prospect of its being better.

We have agreeable to your Desire forwarded a Quantity of Clothing for the use of Capt. Stokeley's Company, & before the Winter sets in shall send a further Supply—At present we could do no more for Want of Money, the new Taxes not yet coming in. Mr. Cooper has taken Charge of it & we hope it will prove an acceptable Supply. The Council hope you will not fail attending this Fall, as the Affair of the new County will in a special manner make it necessary to have your Assistance.

The Vice Presid^t having inclosed you the News Papers, I have only to add on this Subject that our publick Affairs wear a prosper-

ous Aspect, & we hope every Day to hear of Ld Cornwallis's* surrender to Gen. Washington.

I am Sir, with much Esteem,

your Obed. Hble.

Directed,

Hon. Christopher Hayes, Esqr, Member of Council &c.

Indorsed,

Sep. 14, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Capt. Stokely, 1781.

In Council,

Philada., Sept. 14, 1781.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 4th Aug. came safely to Hand, & we hope this will find you safely & successfully returned from your Expedition. In the present State of our Treasury it is impractible to afford a farther Supply of Cloathing than we have sent under the Care of Mr Cooper, viz., 40 Shirts, 40 Overalls, 40 pair Shoes & 40 Woollen Waistcoats. We hope in a very short Time to have a farther Stock & then you may depend on having a more complete Supply. But as the Season for Action is now over & the Events of another Year uncertain, it is the Sense of the Council that no more Recruits be raised this Fall, as it will only subject the State to an Expence of Cloathing & Provisions for a long Winter when they can be of no Use to the State. Should there be Occasion next Spring we apprehend that having the Company organized & taking it up early there will be no Difficulty in recruiting the Company to its Establishment. Having furnished Mr. Hayes, our Member of Council, with Money for the Use of the County, we cannot conceive how it has happened that there should have been any Distress for Provisions unless the People refuse to take the Money. But this would be to suppose them regardless of their own Safety & Interests, as the Provisions would be for the immediate Use of those Men who are raised solely for their Protection & Defence. I have the Satisfaction to inform you that the State Money is now appreciated to 2 for one, & we flatter ourselves a very short Time will bring it to Par.

We have wrote to Mr Hayes on the Subject of Provisions, & hope that in future there will be no Complaints on this Subject.

I am, Sir,

your Obed. Hble. Serv.

P. S. We have given Mr. Cooper his Commission agreeable to your Desire, & sent the Cloathing under his Care.

* He surrendered on the 19th October.

Pres. Reed to County Lieutenants, 1781.

Sir,

The Advices just received make it unnecessary to direct the March of the Militia so soon as our last Orders intimated, you will therefore direct that tho' we could wish they might be in the utmost Readiness, they do not march till farther orders are actually received for that Purpose.

I am, &c.

Directed,

Col. Coates, Lt of the County.

Indorsed,

1781, September 15th, To the Lieutenants of Counties of Philadr, Bucks, Chester, Berks, Lanr, York, & Cumbd.

Pres. Reed to Wm. Bradford Jr., Att'y Gen., 1781.

Sir,

Mr Bright the Inspector of Flour has brought us a few Lines from you importing that Prize Flour is not liable to Inspection. We could wish you to review the Act of Assembly passed 5 April last & particularly the 11th Sect. which seems to us to subject all Flour designed for Exportation to Examination. And as the Credit of the Staple of the State is concerned it is incumbent on us to use all proper Caution against Abuses. As Prize Flour will not at a foreign Port be distinguished from the Produce of the State I should apprehend the Reason & Merit of the Law militates as strongly agt its Exportation without the Examination as any other. Your Candour will I am persuaded excuse the Trouble I give you & am with much Esteem,

Sir, your obed.

& very Hbble. Sert.

Indorsed,

1781, September 15th. To Wm. Bradford, jun'r, Esq'r, Att'y Gen'l.

Wm. Bradford Jr., Att'y Gen. to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sept. 15, 1781, Saturday, 1 o'Clock.

Dear Sir,

I have this moment received your Letter respecting the opinion I gave respecting prize flour & the construction which I conceived the act of Assembly should receive.

After premising that the opinion I gave was not given in my *official* character, and one which Mr Bright should disregard if he thinks proper, & which if wrong should not prevent his sueing for the forfeiture imposed by the act, I beg leave to lay before your Excellency the reasons which induced me to be of that opinion which I delivered Mr Carson.

I consider the law as a penal one, and as restrictive of a natural right, and which therefore ought not be *extended* unnecessarily. That the directions, respecting the Bolters of flour "residing in this province," Bakers of Bread, Millers delivering invoices, &c^a, Carts & waggons used for hauling the flour and several other parts, all seem to have a reference to flour made in this State, and there seemed to me a manifest impropriety in putting the arms of the State of Pennsylvania on foreign flour be its fineness ever so great. I am sensible that the spirit of the law would justify some latitude in construction, but from the general tenor was inclined to think that the case of Prize flour, was casus omissus, & as such not restricted in its exportation. And to prevent frauds I added, that it ought to be *properly certified* to be prize flour.

The Act of Assembly to which your Excellency alludes passed the 5th April last, I believe does not commence in its operation until the 1st October. Not having that act by me, I cannot be positive.

I will acknowledge however that the opinion I gave was done in the hurry of business & in haste; I am willing to review it, and at any rate would advise Mr Carson not to insist upon it if Council should think the interest of the state injured by it, & direct Mr. Bright to exact the forfeiture.

In great haste

I have the honor to be

your Excellency's

most obed. Servt.,

W. BRADFORD, Jun.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq'r, In Council.

PRES. REED TO WM. BRADFORD JR., ATT'Y GEN., 1781.

Dear Sir,

We received your Answer to our Letter of this morning & tho' the Act refered to does not take Place till the 1st October the Words of the Law passed 19th Jan., 1733 & Feb. 21, 1757, which are yet in Force, being exactly in the same words the Reasoning will hold if just in itself. Your Construction of the Operation of the Law as restricted to Flour made in the State we apprehend will be

too strict when it is considered what a great Proportion of Flour exported from Pennsylvania is really the Produce of the Neighboring States & we cannot but think the Ass^y must allways have intended to subject that Flour to equal Inspection with our own. We would also remark that in other Acts of Ass^y when Prize Goods fall under Consideration they are specially excepted as in the Act for Trade & Navigation & that the Omission in the present Case will afford an Argument in favor of Inspectors Claims.

We are indeed of Opinion that the Exportation of this Flour uninspected will be prejudicial to the State in a Point of considerable Importance & therefore hope Mr. Carson will submit it to Mr. Bright's Examination.

I am Sir,

your obed. hble ser.

Indorsed,
September 15th, 1781.

Pres. Reed to Officers of Land Office, 1781.

Gentlemen,

In Consequence of the Applications made to you by Robert Patton & others for 15,000 Acres of Land—William Parr & others for divers Tracts in Westmoreland—& Alex^r Power for Land in Cumberland, and in which you have desired the Direction of the Council, we have considered the several Acts of Assembly creating the Land Office, and are of Opinion that there is no Judicial or authoritative Power vested in us by those acts either to determine upon the Rights of Claimants to Warrants of Survey, or to judge between contending Claimants to the same Location. In the former Case before the Revolution the Proprietary in Virtue of his Title to the Soil granted or refused the Order of Survey at Discretion, leaving any one who deemed himself aggrieved to his Remedy at Law, which was usually taken by a private Survey made, & then an Ejectment brought or a Possession taken, in which the title was determined in an action of Trespass.—The private Interest of the Proprietor, which might be naturally supposed to byass him & refuse just & reasonable Claims would not admit of any other Mode of Determination, but as that Interest no longer exists there cannot be the same Objection to institute a summary Mode of Decision. We would therefore recommend it to you to make a Representation to the Hon. House of Assembly of the Difficulties occurring in the Office for want of some proper & competent authority to decide in such Cases. There appears to us to be many cogent Reasons why this authority should not be vested in the Supreme Executive Council, arising as well from the Constitution of the State, which has carefully separated the executive from the Legislative & judicia

Powers, as from the Impropriety of accumulating Business on the Council Board not imposed on them by the Form of Government. We would also observe that Determinations affecting the landed Interest of the State are of the most important Nature, & should be uniform & consistent, whereas the Council being necessarily changed every three Years, contrary Rules & Regulations will be introduced which must eventually prevent that Stability of Title so necessary for the Cultivation & Improvement of a Young Country. To this it may be added that during the War, & probably for some Time afterwards, the Council will not be able to devote the Time necessary to hear & judge between the contending Parties without Prejudice to the proper Duties & Business of the Board, & it will be found very inconvenient & expensive for Persons to attend from distant Parts of the State, waiting the Leisure of the Board to hear their Pretensions. We apprehend also that the Exercise of the Power given in this Instance, & the Conduct of the Judges should be subject to the Control & Inquiry of the General Assembly of the State as in other Cases; but this cannot be if vested in the Council, who, holding their Seats immediately from the highest Authority, viz.—from the Choice of the People, cannot be subjected to the Examination or Tryal of any other Body, either inferior or equal. These Reasons, together with the Silence of both Acts of Assembly on this Point, induce the Council to decline assuming any Judicial Power in the Cases referred to us from the Land Office. But we think it proper to advise you not to proceed in those Cases, especially on the Requisition for the 15,000 Acres by Robert Patton & others untill you have made the Representation above recommended, least a dangerous Procedent may be introduced.

I am Gent,

Your Obed. &

very Hble. serv.

Indorsed,

1781, September 15th. To Messrs. Lukens, Kennedy and Johnston, Officers of the Land Office.

Michael Huffnagle to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I will engage to supply the Militia of Bedford and Westmoreland & the two Rangin Companys upon the same terms the Continental Troops are supply'd for, which is as low as can be expected, considering the price of Salt and Carriages. Mr. Morris has furnish'd me with some supply's, which will enable me, by getting one hundred pounds in advance, to supply such Militia as may be Ordered into service for three Months without any further supply. I expect

to leave Town to Morrow Evening, should your Excellency have any Commands to the Westward I shall think myself happy to be the Bearer.

I have the Honor
to be your Excellency's
most Obt Hble. Servt,
MICH. HUFFNAGLE.

Septr 15th, 1781.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed. Esqr, Present.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

In Congress, Sept. 17th, 1781.

A letter of this day from the president of the supreme executive Council of Pensylvania was read, with an enclosed extract of a letter of 14 from the Governor of New Jersey.

Ordered, That the same be referred to a Com'te of three, who are instructed to confer with the supreme executive Council of Pensylvania on the subject.

The members Mr. Bondinot, Mr. Atlee, Mr. Varnum.

Extract from the minutes.
CHA. THOMSON, Secy.*

Proposals for Supplies—Wm. Cook to Council, 1781.

Gentlemen,

I propose to Supply the Troops at Sunbury for nine pence ℔ Ration, provided nescessary escorts are Granted for the Conveying provisions, and if any part of them are taken by the Enemy or the Salt provisions should Spoil without any neglect or misconduct of the Contractor that an allowance be made to the full Value thereof, the first payment to be made in three months but if a longer time is required it will be given, and payments afterwards to be every three months.

am Gent. with great respect
your very humble servt.,
WILLm COOK.

Northumberland, 19th Sept., 1781.

N. B. Should these Terms be accepted off, Mr. Hepburn will wait on Council to convey me a letter.

Directed,
To The Hon'ble the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 61.

Pres. Reed to Speaker of Assembly, 1781.

In Council,

Philadelphia, September 19th, 1781.

Sir,

I have the honour to inclose you some advices received this morning from New Jersey, and also to inform you that Colonel Ogden from Elizabeth Town, who has attended in Council, has given assurances that the intelligence comes from persons who may be depended on, and corresponds with his own opinion and observation.

It is hardly necessary to acquaint the Honorable House, that at present there is no Law in force for calling forth Waggons or procuring other Transportation either for Troops which may take the field agreeable to the Requisition of Congress, or to remove in case of necessity the public Records; or to provide any means of subsistence for such Troops, or the prisoners of War who may be hastily removed. It is also questionable, how far there is sufficient legal authority, to call forth more than four Classes of Militia, or appropriate any monies however great the emergence. These and other important considerations will necessarily demand the attention of the House, if the present advices shall be deemed to denote any design against this state.

Sir, with much esteem,

Your obedient and very humble servant,

JOS. REED, President.

Directed,

To the Hon'ble Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Sec'y Matlack to Officers on Removal of Records, 1781.

Philad^a, Septr 19, 1781.

Sir,

The enemy at N. York being in motion & the object they have in view uncertain, the Council are of opinion, that prudence requires so much precaution on the part of the state as to have the public records, books and papers in condition to be sent off whenever it shall become necessary, you are therefore to have those under your care in readiness to be removed at the shortest notice.

You are to consider this order as confidential and give as little alarm to the Citizens as possible.

By order of Council.

T. MATLACK, secy.

Directed,

To Treasurer of the state, D. Rittenhouse.
The Register of wills, Philad^a, S. Morris.
Recorder J. Morris, Jr.
Prothonotary of Supream Court, E. Burd.
of Common Pleas, Philad^a, J. B. Smith.
Surveyor General, John Lukens, Esqr.
Board of accounts, John Shea & others.
Clerk of Assembly, Sam'l Sterrett. (with a Note "I suppose the library to be under your Care.")*

Instructions Pres. Reed to Andrew Higgins, 1781.

Your are to proceed with all Expedition to that Part of Cape May from which you can make the best observation of any Fleets coming into Delaware Bay, Should you discover a Fleet making towards the Bay you will endeavour to ascertain their numbers & then immediately send off Intelligence to this City, & at the same Time employ some Person to watch their motions from the Land Side giving Information to the Council of this State from Time to Time of their Progress & Proceedings. All your reasonable Expence of which you will keep an account will be defrayed by the Council & you will receive a reasonable Compensation for your own Trouble. In Case you employ any other Expresses you are desired to make a fixed Bargain with them & if to be paid here inform us what you have agreed for. If any opportunities offer without Expence you will write to us whether you discover any Thing or not, & let us know where you are to be found. All the well affected Inhabitants of New Jersey are desired to give you such aid as you may want in this Service.

JOS. REED, President.

Philad. Sept. 20, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 62.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

The advices received & the general opinion of the Intentions of the Enemy with the sense of Congress on this subject have induced us to permit the militia to assemble according to original orders. We should therefore be obliged to you for Information, what Assistance you can give us in providing for them. The Demands on us which are proper to the State on this occasion will be so numerous & heavy & our Treasury so low that we fear our Difficulties will be insurmountable if we cannot receive some aid in this particular. Some of the Militia are already on the March to Newtown so that we beg to be favoured with an answer as soon as possible.

I am Sir, with much Esteem & Consideration,

Your obed. Hble. Serv.

J. R.

Indorsed,
Sep. 20, 1781.

Robert Morris to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Office of Finance, Sepb. 20th, 1781.

Sir,

I am honoured with your Excellency's Letter of this date, and most sincerely wish my situation was such as to justify a promise of aid, equal to the present necessities, I mean the necessities that will be created by the call of militia at this time, but unluckily the late movements of the army have so entirely drained me of money, that I have been obliged to pledge my personal Credit very deeply in a variety of instances, besides borrowing money from my Friends and advancing to promote the public Service, every Shilling of my own, In this situation, I was preparing an application to the Honourb. Council & Assembly for relief from my advances for the State of Pensylvania, and this will be the more necessary, as this alarm whilst it lasts will cut of all possibility of recruiting the Treasury. Those who possess hard money will keep it, and those who have Demands will become more eager for payment, therefore all I can promise is the use of my credit, and an exertion if any influence I may have in favour of such measures as may be deemed necessary, at the same time I do not recede from my first opinion, that the Enemy do not meditate an attack on this City.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellencys most obedt. hble. Serv.

ROBT. MORRIS.

His Excellency The President of the State of Pensylvania.

PRES. REED TO CAP. SAM. MORRIS OF THE LIGHT HORSE, 1781.

Sir,

The advices received are of so serious a Nature to this City, That I think it adviseable the Troop of Light Horse should be in Readiness to move upon the shortest Notice, It is hoped therefore that no Member of the Troops will leave the City on any private Business & it will be expected that every one not actually disabled by Sickness will attend this interesting Call.

I am Sir,

Your obed. Hble. Servt.

J. REED, Prest.

Capt. Morris Commandt. of the Troop of the City Troop of Light Horse.

Indorsed,

Sept. 20 1781.

PRES. REED TO COMMITTEE OF ASSEMBLY, 1781.

Sir,

I find some Gentlemen so doubtful of the Power to collect Fines for Delinquency under the militia Law in Case they should be called out by Battalions under the 25th Sect. of the Militia Law, that I beg Leave to recommend an Addition to the 8th Resolve, to the Effect that all Delinquents be subject to the same Fines & Penalties as in other Cases when called forth in Classes. If the Militia of the City are called forth it must be by Battalion, & it will be unreasonable that those who refuse to bear a Part in the publick Defence should be excused a Share of the publick Burthen.

Since writing the above I have received the Resolves of the House, so that I would suggest an additional Resolve to the above Effect, & I would earnestly entreat that a Temporary Law may pass corresponding with the above Resolves as soon as possible.

I am Sir,

your Obed. & very Hbbl. Serv.,

J. R.

Indorsed,

1781, September 20th, To Sharpe Delany, Esq., Chairman of Comttee of Assembly.

Pres. Reed to Capt. Boys, 1781.

Sir,

I would wish you immediately to inform me what heavy Ordnance we have, the particular calibre, & where they are—What fixed Ammunition there may be for them—& what Time it will take to equip 4 or 5 Flats so as to move on the River in Case of Necessity.

I am in Haste,

your Obed. Hble Serv.,

J. R.

Indorsed,

Sept. 20, 1781.

Directed,

Capt. Boys.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

In the present Situation of Affairs I should be happy in being assisted with your good Judgment & Advice in forming such Arrangements as may be most effectual for drawing forth the Strength & Resources of the State in the most effectual Manner & concerting a previous general Plan for this Purpose & defending this City.

I shall therefore beg the Favour of your Company in Market Street at 1 o'Clock, to meet a few other Gentlemen proper to be consulted on such an Occasion.

I am Sir with much Esteem,

your Obed. & very Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,

1781, September 21st, To Honble Robt. Morris, Honble Board of War, and others.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

(Circular.)

Sir,

I have the honor to inclose your Excellency two Acts of Congress of the 31st August and 14th September instant, for your information in matters relating to the Consular & Vice-Consular powers; and am, with the highest respect,

your Excellency's

most Obedient

Humble Servt,

THO. McKEAN, President.

Philadelphia, 21st Septr, 1781.

Directed,—His Excellency, the President of Pennsa.

By the United States in Congress Assembled.

Septem^r 14th, 1781.

Resolved,

That until the ratification of some Convention between his most Christian Majesty and the United States concerning Vice Consular power, every Vice Consul of his most Christian Majesty shall upon the application of the Consul appointing him, to the Supreme Executive power of the State to which he may be sent, receive the Exequatur in like form with the Exequatur delivered to a Consul Mutatis Mutandis, and thereupon the same proceedings shall be had with respect to publication.

Extract from the Minutes.

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Pres. Reed to Robert Morris, 1781.

Sir,

After deliberating upon the best Mode of supplying the Militia with Provisions we are of Opinion that the Revival of Commissioners of Purchases will be attended with many Inconveniencies, enhance Prices, & affect your Plan of Supply by Contract, which is certainly most beneficial to the publick & certain to the the Troops. We would therefore refer it to your Consideration whether it will not be best for you to assume the Direction of it in this Case, & we on our Parts will engage to furnish you with Money from Time to Time to perform any Engagements you may enter into on their Account. This we think we can now perform from the Taxes collecting. There will also be a farther Advantage that should it be proper to dismiss the Militia at an early Day, as we hope will be the Case, the Expence will cease immediately, whereas the necessary Arrangements in the other Mode of Supplies on Hand as well as the contingent Charges always create & continue Expence.

Indorsed,

1781, September 22nd, To Honble Robert Morris, Esquire, Superintendant of Finance.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, Sept. 22nd, 1781.

Sir,

I received your Excellency's favour of the 19th instant late last Evening, and have in consequence thereof directed the three Classes of Militia (ordered on the 11th instant, and countermanded on the 15th,) to Rendezvous at this place on the 26th instant, and march for Newtown, in Bucks County.

From the general Refractory spirit of the Militia I have reason to expect considerable trouble before I get them off, owing to the want of Nap-sacks, blankets, Arms & Accoutrements, of which Articles we are intirely destitute.

Council will please to take notice that a few weeks from now will complete the Tour of the Guards stationed here. Some of the Counties I am informed are considerably in Arrears (Lancaster County having furnish'd seven Classes since last November)—as Council is best acquainted with the details of the Militia, I must beg, should my information be well founded, they would order a relief from such place as they shall think proper. The distresses occasioned by the frequent Call in this County is indeed alarming. The scarcity of Money & small demand for produce oblige us to Levy & sell for the fines incur'd by many people (well affected) whose situation would by no means allow them to turn out when thereto required. And what is more Alarming is the disposing of goods for less than a tenth part of its value (people being in general prejudiced against buying goods seized by virtue of the Militia Law) so that goods to the value of a hundred pounds must be sold to pay eight or ten pounds,—and so in proportion.

If Council can possibly avoid calling on us for more Militia for some time to come, it will not only put a stop to the present great murmurings, but give general satisfaction.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect,

your obt & very hl serv.,

ADm HUBLEY, J, Lt Lr Cy.

Directed,

(On public service.)

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Pennr, Philadr.

Robt. Morris to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Mr. Morris presents his Compliments to His Excellency, the President of the State. He rec'd his Excy's letter of yesterday just as he was going out of Town, & this morning he has not been able to see some persons he thinks it necessary to converse with relative to the supplies before he gives a positive answer, but at same time he has little doubt of being able to comply with the wishes of Council in that respect.

Sunday morning.

Indorsed,

Sept. 23, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency, the President of Pensylvania.

Instructions of Congress to Brig. Genl. Irwin, 1781.

By the United States in Congress Assembled.

September 24th, 1781.

Resolved,

That Brigr Genl Irwin be and he is hereby ordered to repair forthwith to Fort Pitt and take upon himself the Command of that Garrison until farther orders.

That Brigr Genl Irwin be and hereby is authorised and directed to arrange the troops which compose the Garrison of Fort Pitt and its dependencies in such manner as to retain no more Officers than are absolutely necessary for the number of non Commissioned officers and privates at those posts.

That Brigr Genl Irwin be and hereby is authorised and directed to arrange the Staff Departments within his command so as to retain no more Officers or persons in those Departments than the Service absolutely demands. That he be and hereby is farther impowered to call in from time to time such aids of Militia as may be necessary for the defence of the post under his command and the protection of the Country. And for this purpose the Executives of the States of Virginia and Pennsylvania are requested to direct the proper officers of the Militia in their respective States to obey such orders as they shall receive from time to time from Brigr Genl Irwin for the purpose aforesaid.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.*

Robert Morris to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Office of Finance,
Septbr 24th, 1781.

Sir,

In Consequence of the Letter which your Excellency did me the honor to write the 22d instt† in Council, I have had a conference with the Contractors for supplying this Post with Rations, and have the pleasure to inform you that they are ready to undertake the supplies of Provision to the militia now called into service, and to attend them for that purpose to whatever part they March or move; therefore I will send them to receive your orders whenever you think it necessary, and I suppose it will be proper that they should be informed of the number of Rations that will be required,

* See letter from President of Congress accompanying this—October 8, 1781.

† See page 417.

and the Place of Rendevouz. I have assured them of punctual payment, depending on your assurances on that head.

At the same time that I determine to give every aid in my power to the measures of Government, I cannot help expressing my hopes that the present Circumstances and intelligence will admit of the Militia being with propriety dismissed, as I think it very evident the Enemy do not mean any attack on this State, and I dread to have its Funds unnecessarily exhausted.

With great Respect,

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's Most Obed^t Servant,

ROBT. MORRIS.

Directed,

His Excellency Jo^s Reed, Esqr, Presid^t of the State of Pensylv^a.

Pres. Reed to Delegates in Congress, 1781.

Gentlemen:

A Number of Persons who have gone into Service with their Teams on an urgent Requisition of Congress have frequently importuned this Board for a Compensation.—We referred them, as has been the constant Usage, to the Quarter Master General, who has settled their Accounts, but is unable to make Payment. The Distresses of the People, now called on for their Taxes, are very great, & unless some Relief is given we fear it will have a very unhappy Effect on the Country in Case Waggons should be wanted on any Emergency. We are very sensible that the Means of satisfying the the publick Demands are not equal to the Desires of the Hon. Congress to do Justice to the many who have Demands of a public Nature—but we are of Opinion this Demand under present Circumstances is worthy of particular notice, and the rather as the Prices are settled in Specie, & the Distresses of the People induce them to offer to receive it in State Money—which this Board will advance upon any Order drawn in favour of the Quarter Master & credited to the State in the general Account.—This we hope will obviate all Difficulties, & must request you if consistent with your Judgment to support the Application with your utmost Interest.

I am Sir.

P. S. Col. Miles having rendered Account of their Service, as he informs us it is not necessary to enter into farther Detail, but he estimates it to us at about £5000.

Indorsed,

September 24, 1781.

Pres. Reed to the Wagon Masters, 1781.

Sir,

Pursuant to the Resolves inclosed you are hereby required to call forth & forward to this City Waggons with proper Drivers. And in Case of Need to impress Horses, Waggons & Gears. You will therefore immediately forward your Orders to your several Deputies or such other Persons as you may think necessary & who will exert themselves on this important Service, For which you & all Persons concerned will receive a suitable Compensation. As this is a great & important Occasion & probably the last Exertion of this Nature which may be required it is not doubted but you will exert yourself equal to the Necessity of the Case.

I am Sir,

your obed. Hb'ble ser.,

J. REED.

Directed,

To Waggon Master of the County of———.

Indorsed,

September 24th, 1781.

V. P. Moore to Col. Lewis, 1781.

In Council, Sept. 25, 1781.

Sir,

The Inclos'd Letter when you have perus'd, you'll Please to forward by Express to Col. Smith, Lieutenant of Chester County, you'll likewise by Express Inform Col. Chency & Col. Grono of the Contents.

Directed, Col. Lewis.

V. P. Moore to Col. Robt. Smith, 1781.

In Council, Sept. 25, 1781.

Sir

As we have had no Recent Account of the Movements of the Enemy at N. York, we are of opinion that the Militia of Chester County should not March 'till further Orders, but hold themselves in Readiness to Proceed on a Minutes Notice to Newtown.

I am with great Respect

y^r most h'ble Servt,

Wm MOORE, Vice President.

Indorsed,

1781, September 25th. To Colonel Robert Smith Lieutenant of the County of Chester.

Hon. George Bryan to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, 25th Sept., 1781.

Dear Sir,

Being informed by Mr. Attorney General that a bill to amend & confirm the Acts of attainder, is designed I take the liberty to suggest an obvious blunder in the supplementary act, which is inserted in the printed Book of Laws, page 187, &c. Instead of adding to the 8th section, the limitation upon claimants paramount of twenty years, there is in the following proviso a limitation of 20 years, upon the reimbursement of the evinced purchasers, as tho' the rents in the mean time should have made them whole. This I think was of Mr. Ed. Biddle's draughting. Certainly he did not mean that the law should be so. It must be an oversight.

There is no limitation, I observe, on the claims of Creditors living beyond sea, who never come over. Perhaps a word or two would put them on a proper footing.

The clause of limitation upon old Clarendon city Lots & other estate, see Page 428, seems too equally defective.

I am Dear Sir,

your most obedt.

and very humr Servt.,

GEO. BRYAN.

Directed,

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr., President &c.

V. P. Moore to Col. Adam Hubley, 1781.

In Council, Philada, Sept. 28, 1781.

Sir,

By an Express arrived this morning from his Excellency, the President, dated at Trenton the 27th instant, it appears that the enemy are in motion, and their designs are probably against Philadelphia. It is therefore necessary that the utmost expedition be used in forwarding on the militia and Light horse of your County to the place of rendezvous at New-town in Bucks County.

The Council depend on your exertions in this critical moment.

I am Sir, &c.,

W. M., V. P.

Directed,

To Coll. Hubley, Lieut. Lancaster Co.

PRES. OF CONGRESS TO PRES. REED, 1781.

(Circular.)

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive inclosed herewith the copy of an act of Congress of the 28th instant,* respecting all the General Officers who may be inhabitants of your State, which it is hoped will be pleasing to them.

I have the honor to be,
with the greatest regard,
your Excellency's
most obedient humble servant,
THO. McKEAN, President.

Philadelphia, Septemr. 29th, 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency, President Reed.

WM. McCALLA TO COUNCIL, 1781.

Bucks County, Septr. 29th, 1781.

Gentlemen,

The Honour you did me when appointing me Commissioner of purchases for Said County Shall be Ever Greatfully Acknowledged by me, and Engages my Greatest Exercions, in the Service of my Appointment to merit your favours, but at this present I Labour Under dificulty to Accomplish the Demands requested of me. General Lacey & the Commiss'ry of Issues at the post of Newtown Are Calling for Meat & other Suplys for the Use of that post and its not in my power to Supply them Without I be furnished with money as the people are Determined not to Sell at Trust. I Bought Twenty-seven head of Cattle intirely at my risk & Can purchase Numbers Were I able to pay them & at reasonable prices as the people must Sell to answer their Tax and they Cannot Let them go without the money. I have Sent My Assistant Joseph Wilson With this Who Shall Wait on your Honours For an answer Or money if you have it to Send.

I am, Gentlemen, with the greatest
Respect, your Honours
most ob^d & humble s^t,
W. McCALLA, C. P. B. C.

Directed,

Public service.

To The Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the State Peny^a, Council Chamber, Philadelphia.

℞ T. Wilson.

* Not found.

Major Matthew McConnell to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Sir,

I conceive it my Duty to inform your Excellency & Council that the Rifle Men in the Barracks have cut up some of the Sledges belonging to the public for Firewood, Captain Livergood having ordered them so to do, or at least countenanced the Act, as he was present when it was done. Certain it is the Garrison is in great need of Wood, not having received any for several weeks.

I am with due respect
your Excellency's
most Obedient and
very humble servt.,
MATHEW McCONNELL, T. Major.

Philad^a, 29th Sept., 1781.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, in Council.

Leonard Cooper to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Barracks 1st, Octr. 1781.

Gentlemen,

Agreeable to the Instructions given to the Superintendant of the Barracks, I beg leave to represent to your Honorable Board an account of some damages done to one of the rooms & utensils therein.

Last week a Soldier belonging to Major Parr's Rifle Corps in a fit of drunkenness cut up a part of a Board belonging to the Floor of his room, for which he was tried by a Garrison Court Martial, and on Saturday last a Soldier of the same Corps cut up and destroyed a Sledge for the use of fuel, which he says, (& it appears) was done in consequence of orders he received from his officer, Captain Livergood, who was spoken to on the above account by the Town Major.

Trivial as this affair is, I thought it my Duty to conform to my Instructions, and permit me to assure your Excellency and Honorable Council,

I remain, with due respect,
your very humble Servant,
LEONARD COOPER,
Superint. Barracks.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed Esqr., and Honorable Executive Council.

SECRETARY MATLACK TO LIEUTENANTS, 1781.

Sir,

You will perceive by the inclosed resolve of *Congress that Brigader General Irwin is appointed to repair forthwith to Fort Pitt and take upon him the command of that Garrison. The Council is disposed to pay a due respect to the requisition of Congress and to afford General Irwin all the assistance in their power, you are therefore hereby ordered to call forth, agreeable to law, upon his requisition such militia as may be necessary for the defence of that post and the protection of the country.

Indorsed,—October 1st, 1781.

Directed,—To the 1st Lieutenants of the counties of Washington and Westmoreland.

JOHN HAZELWOOD TO ASSEMBLY, 1781.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met.

Gentlemen,

In the latter part of the last setting of your Honourable House I made report of the many pressing Calls on me By the Commissery Genl. for the Immediate supplys for The Troops & Prisoners at this post, & having received orders From the Honourable the Executive Council not to pass any more state money unless it Could be done at rate of Gold or Silver Value, and the Commiss^ry Stores Intirely out of Every article & nothing to be got but for specie, I informed the Honourable Executive Council of this our Situation, who desired me to inform the Honourable House of the same, which I did accordingly, & a Committee of the Honourable House was pleased to order me to procure if Possable the necessary supplyes on Credit for a few days, and that they would see me furnished with specie for the payment of the same which was in part Complyed with, but there is still a Ball^ce of that Acc^t amo^ts to £940 3 11¾ yet unpaid, and The Constant applycations from the people to me, ever since, and not having it in my power to pay them, it renders my situation disagreeable, tho' knowing the pressing necessity governm^t were in for want of money, have put them off in the best manner I could. Mr. Lev. Hollingsworth has suffered much as his was the Largest sum; there is due him £446 5 7½, which he is now in greate want of as well as the Other Gentlemen whom I prevailed on to give me Credit, & it would make me Exceeding Happy if the Honourable House Could before they rise Inable me to make Good now my forfeited promises to them.

I am Your Honours most Obt. & Very Humble Servt.,

Octobr. 1st, 1781. JOHN HAZELWOOD, C. P^r.

Directed—,To The Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Common Welth of Pennsyl'a in General Assembly.

* See page 419.

Wm. Scott to V. P. Moore, 1781.

York, October 2d, 1781.

Sir,

With your Honours Letter of the 27th last Month, I received a line from General St. Clair, informing me that the Cloathing and Prisoners here are to be sent to Philad^a. And as there were regular Troops at this Place, the officer who had the Charge of the Prisoners thought it unnecessary to take a guarde of the Militia.

I have hired a waggoner to go with the officer and guard, who is to find his own Provisions & Forage, and to have seven Pounds and ten shillings specie, for his reward. The owner of the Waggon, Mr William Alexander, will deliver this. Therefore requests Council to pay him the sum above mentioned.

I am, sir, your Honours
Obedient Humble Servt.,
WM. SCOTT.

Directed,

The Honourable William Moore, Esquire, Vice President, Philadelphia.

Robert Levers to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Easton, October 2^d, 1781.

Sir,

Agreeable to the order of the Supreme Executive Council, dated the eleventh of September last, and received the 14th, the Second and Third Classes of the Militia of this County were immediately called to assemble the twenty-fifth, at the several places appointed, to march to Newtown with all dispatch. This length of time was given, that the militia called upon might settle their home affairs. Col. Hayes, one of the Sub Lieutenants, came to me on the 19th, representing that the militia were very uneasy about being called out of the county, as they were so frequently alarmed by incursions from the savages. I endeavored to represent to him, from the information I had received, the danger this State was in by an invasion expected from the enemy in force, and that I hoped the militia would exert themselves—That it was a common danger, and that if the enemy should attempt and succeed, the evil would be of the worst consequence, and more to be dreaded than an Indian Invasion, as the devastation would be more general. In the midst, the order of council of the 15th came to hand, countermanding the march of the militia at present, but directing they should hold themselves in readiness; a copy of which order of Council Col. Hayes received from me, and I wrote immediately to the other Sub-Lieutenants.

By Col. Jacob Weiss, I received on Sunday evening, the 23^d Ult^o, the order of Council, dated the 19th, directing me to stay the order of countermand, or, if forwarded, to send an express after it. As the countermand had been forwarded by Col. Hayes, as above men-

tioned, upon the receipt of this last order, I immediately dispatched an express to the several Sub-Lieutenants, and directed that the militia of the said two classes of the six battallions, should rendezvous at the several places before appointed, on the first day of October, and immediately proceed to Newtown. Accordingly yesterday, a few of the second battallion of the two classess, about twenty or upwards, and three or four of the fifth battallion assembled at this place; Captn Alshouse, a Spirited officer, who commands the company in the second battallion, endeavoured, as well as my myself, to persuade and animate the few militia that appeared to march, but they objected thereto, alledging that the other counties were greatly behind the militia of this county in respect of militia services; that they did not know how soon they would be wanted to protect their own habitations and families, and those of their frontier neighbours from Indian incursions; and begged I would allow them time to make application to your Excellency in person for relief. I expostulated with them on this matter; shewed the impropriety of it; begged them to recollect on the loss of reputation by this step, and pointed out how much more agreeable it would be to your Excellency, and more honorable to themselves, for the Battallions to turn out in force, and march to the place of rendezvous; shew to their fellow citizens they were ready to serve their country when called upon; and that then, with a good grace, they could ask of the Commander in Chief, if the movements of the enemy did not immediately demand their services, liberty to turn back. But it appearing they were not disposed to march, a very small number of this few excepted, I judged it best to comply with their request, and appointed next Friday for the day of general rendezvous, if their application should not be admitted. Your Excellency, I trust, will be convinced that I endeavoured to do my duty in forwarding the militia to Newtown; and as this indulgence of a delay in this march is a matter with me of constraint, not of choice, I trust, also, that it may be approved. Whether the Militia of the First, Third, Fourth and Sixth battallions are in motion I do not yet learn; but, from the rumors of yesterday, I fear they are not.

I am, Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient, very humble Servant,
ROBERT LEVERS.

P. S.—Just as I was about to fold up this Letter, I received the originals of the enclosed Copies. I thought proper to send them, as the chief of their contents are the holding back of the militia. Mr Anderson, mentioned in the enclosed comission, declined receiving the same, and, being in the Third Class, is ordered out in the Foot Service.

Directed,—Public Service.

Joseph Reed, Esquire, President and Commander in Chief of the Common Wealth of Pennsylvania.

By Capt Henry Alshouse, Newtown.

Col. John Hays to Lt. Robert Levers, 1781

Copy.

Allen Township, October 1st, 1781.

Sir,

As the Light Horse did meet at Capt. Claser's this day, and as they have made me a Return of them as they are, and I have sent it by the Bearer, and they have had so short time for equipping themselves, and there is a number that did join this day, and there is a number that will join very soon. As they did make a very good appearance, and I hope that you will give all the help that is in your power, as they are not equipped, for to have them equipped.

JOHN HAYS, S. L[t]
of Northampton County.

To Robert Levers, Lieut. Esq., of Northampton County.

A List of the Light Horse as they stand equipped; reported by Col. John Hays, Sub Lieut.

Capt.,
Lieut., John Brisbin, (equipped.)
Cornet, John McNair, do.
Henry Shad, (Pistols.)
John Seekfried, (equipped.)
Jost Dreisbagh, (equipped.)
George Gangwehr.
Hugh Wilson.
John Walker, (equipped.)
John Hutchinson, (equipped.)
John McNealy, (ditto.)
Thomas Martin, (Pistols.)
William Craig, (equipped.)
Hugh Wilson, (ditto.)
William Carty, (ditto.)

Col. Nicholas Kern to Lt. Robert Levers, 1781.

Copy.

At Captain Claser's, October 1st, 1781.

Sir,

According to the order I received, I paraded and am ready to march to Newtown, and there is a number of the Privates of the 3d Battallion have met in order to march, to the number of 40 Privates, and as there is no Camp Kettles nor any other Equipments, I have thought proper to acquaint you with it, praying you to let me know

how I shall proceed, and when I must be equipped. I have received a Letter from Lieutenant Col. Geiger, of the 6th Battallion, that the Horse assembled and are ready to march, but as the danger of our Frontiers are so dangerous, and are in great distress by being annoy'd by the Savage, the Indians, as they are seen there by the Scout that have been out in the woods, and expect nothing but they will fall on our Frontier every day, therefore, I beg you to let the Militia over the mountain to stay at their own places, as the times is so difficult at the present, if it can answer the end according to the state of the case as it now stands.

From your Friend and humble Servant,

NICHOLAS KERN, Col.

To Robert Levers, Lieut. of Northampton County, Esq.

Memorial of Second Battalion of Militia, 1781.

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esqr, President and Commander in Chief of the Militia of Pennsylvania.

The Petition of the subscribers, in behalf of themselves and the other persons composing the second & third Classes of the second Battalion of Militia within the County of Northampton,

Humbly Sheweth,

That in pursuance of Orders from your Excellency, the Lieutenant of the said County has called out the said two Classes, to march to Newtown in the County of Bucks, in order to join the Militia of the other Counties for the defence of the State.

That the Frontiers of this County has been for some considerable time past Invaded by the Savage Enemy; and every three or four weeks murders committed by them on said Frontiers.

That your Petitioners are of Opinion that the militia of this County have already done their equal, if not more, proportion of duty, than the other Militia of this State; and that one or two Classes of our Militia must always be on said Frontiers for the defence of the same.

Your Petitioners therefore, for the reasons herein set forth, humbly pray that your Excellency would be pleased to take the same into consideration; and to countermand the marching of the said two Classes to Newtown afs^d.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray, &c.

PETER SEIP,
ADAM JOHE, Junr,
ABRAHAM ARNDT,
JACOB SHOEMAKER,
and others.

Easton, October 1st, 1781.

Gen. Anthony Wayne to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lines before York, 3rd Octr, 1781.

Sir,

The investiture of the British army under Lord Cornwallis was effected the 29th ultimo, the enemy abandoned their advanced chain of works the same evening, leaving two enclosed Redoubts almost within point blank shot of their principal fortification; this was not only unmilitary, but an indication of a confused precipitation,—these works were Immediately possessed by the allied troops, & we are now in such forwardness that we shall soon render his Lordship's Quarters rather disagreeable.

However the Reduction of that army will require time & some expence of blood, for we cannot expect that Lord Cornwallis will tacitly surrender 6000 Combatants without many a severe *sortie*, his political & Military Character are now at stake, he has lead the British King & Ministry into a Deception by assuring them of the subjugation of the Carolinas, & his manoeuvre into Virginia was a Child of his own Creation, which he will attempt to nourish at every risque and Consequence—he is now in full as Desperate a situation as his namesake *Charles* was at Pultowa. I have for some time viewed him as a fiery meteor that displays a momentary lustre, then falls to rise no more.

That great officer, Genl. Greene, first eclipsed his glory—he next met a Fabius in that young nobleman, the Marquis Lafayette, & is now encompassed by a Washington, which renders his ruen certain.*

I was going chatting on, but am called to take charge of the Covering troops, adieu, & believe me yours most sincerely,

ANTY. WAYNE.

Directed,

His Excellency Jos Reed, Esq., Prest. Pennsyla.

Mons. A. P. Penet to Council, 1781.

To the Honble the Governor & Council of the State of Pensylvania.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to take this opportunity to give you early Intelligence of the new Discoveries that have lately been made in France, a metal to sheath the Bottom of ships, also a Mastic to nourish Iron, keep it from Rust and preserve it sound for many years are Just invented.

* Lord Cornwallis surrendered Oct. 19th, 1781.

The Utility of Copper was known long ago; chiefly, in Navigation. It being scarce and too dear for a general use, most of the shipping, were depriv'd of that advantage. The new metal resembles Copper has all its Perfection and sells as well as the mastic for half its price. An Experiment was lately made in Paris by able Chymists and learned Philosophers; they soak'd Iron nails varnished with the s^d Mastic in the most corrosive matters, after they had laid in them during some days, they were extracted fresh and ungnaw'd; so that they may be used instead of Copper ones, being esteem'd preferable to them.

These new Inventions were scrupulously & minutely examin'd before they could obtain the approbation of the King with the authority of Government to have their Fabricks establish'd, orders are Issued for the Royal Navy to make use of those articles, considerable demands are made by several opulent houses of Holland & France.

Nobody can deny that ships sheathed with copper will make double the voyages of others; because, they sail faster & are not detain'd in Ports for cleaning, careening and paying them with coats. The Metal remains fix'd as long as the ship last; whereas, before others that have no Copper are unfit for service, they cost twice or three times as much as they did when they were built. I beg you, would consider how important the new Discoveries are to Trade and Navigation. Manufactures are establish'd; the company that direct them have appointed and constituted me their sole agent to export their Metal & Mastic to America in General; they have granted me an exclusive Privilege to that Effect.

The Reputation of my late Partner, M^r. Pliame, has I believe reach'd you. I am known in America since the year 1775 when first I carried to Cambridge Gun-powder, arms & other military stores to defend your Liberty. I have from that time supplied several States with the like articles, besides cloathing & accoutrements for your Troops. Being concerned in your welfare & Independence, I make bold to offer you my humble services; I propose at the same time to furnish you the metal & varnish on the following Terms, viz. to ship them on your account and Risques. The Stock of the concerned for the establishment of the new Fabricks and purchase of the materials being very considerable, they demand ready money or Bills at short dates when I dispatch their merchandise. Consequently, Payment is to be made by the Purchasers either in ready money or with Bills on France, Spain or Holland drawn at short time. A Commission will be allowed for my troubles in shipping them. Should you prefer to send your vessels to France in order to have them Sheathed with the new Metal, Please to send them to my address. If my Proposals are agreeable to you and your Honble Navy Board, as soon as I receive your orders I will comply with them and I shall make my Study to turn every thing with œconomy to your advantage. My attention to your Business will I hope, give

you unquestionable proofs of my true attachment to your service. That I may be entitled to the continuance of your favors is the sincere wish of,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

& devoted humble servant.

A. P. PENET.

Nantes, Octr the 7th, 1781.

Directed,

To the Honble the Governor and Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Col. Saml. Miles to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philada, Octr 8th, 1781.

Sir,

In consequence of Gen. Knox's letter to the Board of War representing the necessity of forwarding the Shells & Shot in Berks & Lancaster Counties immediately to the Head of Elk, and of their orders to me. I arrived here a few minutes past, with a view of Hurrying the transportation of these articles. But, I find great part of the waggons in this, & I suppose of Lancaster County also, are preparing to set out for Philada., by virtue of an Order of the Honble the Executive Council, part of those teams are already as far as Pottsgrove. The Capture of Cornwallace's Army may, perhaps, depend on getting the Shot & Shells in these Counties, down in time, which appears to me impossible if all the Waggons call'd for by the State are otherwise employ'd. I have therefore taken the liberty of representing this matter to your Excellency, not doubting but those teams will, unless there should be pressing occations for them, be countermanded. And if the Waggon Master Genl could be directed to employ them in the transportation of these Ordinance Stores, it would greatly expedite the Business, & I shall take care to see them paid for that Service.

I have sent this by express with orders to wait your Excellencies answer & then return with the utmost expedition.

I have the Honor to be,

your Excellencies most Obed.

& most Humble Servt,

SAM. MILES, D. Q. M. for Pennsa.

Directed,

Public Service.

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esq., President of Pennsa.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Philadelphia, October 8th, 1781.

Sir,

As Brigadier General Irwine proposes to set out to morrow in order to take the command at Fort Pitt, and may very probably have occasion for the aid of the Militia in the vicinity of that Post, I thought it proper to procure a copy of his instructions* and to transmit them to you; they are accordingly herewith inclosed, and I rest assured every suitable measure will be adopted for affording him effectual support by the militia in case of necessity.

I have the honor to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir, Your Excellency's
most obedient Servant,
THO. M'KEAN, President.

Directed,
His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire.

Valentine Eckert to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Reading, 8th October, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I have last Week sent to Newtown in Bucks County three Companies of Militia out of this County containing upwards of three Hundred Men exclusive of officers—two Companies of them I arm'd, the other I sent without Arms, not having any more Arms to give them—three Companies more are gathering in this County, which will be almost as many as the former; but have not Arms to give them, & Numbers of the Lancaster County Militia are returning Home through this place, who say that they are dismiss'd, which makes me doubtful what to do.

Therefore I desire the favour of you as soon as possible to acquaint me how to proceed in this Matter, whether to send the remaining three Companies out or not—if I send them whether without Arms, or shall I send to Collect Arms for them. I have already sent out a party to Collect Arms out of one district, and if you require that I should send out the other three Companies and Arm them, I must send out to Collect all the private Arms that are in this County,

I am Sir, with due respect
your very Hum. Servt,
VALENTINE ECKERT, Lieut.
Berks County.

Directed,—Public Service
To His Excellency Joseph Reed, President in Council, Philadel^a.
Mr Harvey.

* See p. 419.

Pres. Reed to Delegates in Congress, 1781.

Gentlemen,

We have hitherto delayed presenting the inclosed Petitions from our Reluctance to add to the Cares & Business of the Hon. Body to which you belong. But the Importance of the Subject & our Duty to the State appear to us after due Delberation not to admit of further Delay.

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen,

with much Esteem, your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

Indorsed,—Oct. 8, 1781.

Directed,—The Hon. the Delegates of Pennsylv^a.

Lt. Robert Smith to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Chester County, October 10th, 1781.

Sir,

The situation and circumstances of the Militia of this County under the late call induces me to request the advice and Instructions of the Hon. Council with respect as well to the pay of those Who have been call'd into service, as to the Fines upon delinquents.

In Obedience to orders, four Classes of the militia of this County have Twice march'd, and have as often been countermanded, and are now on furlough till further Orders, by which they are led to consider themselves as still in service, until properly discharged. The furnishing them with provisions sufficient to supply them on their march to Newtown has occasioned a considerable expense, for which as we had no money in hand, we still remain Indebted; and as they have very Generally turn'd out upon the call, the number of delinquents is proportionably small, and consequently the fines (if collected) would be inadequate to the expence and Wages of those who march'd.

As the march was Countermanded before they left The County, and those who have turn'd out upon the Call have been but a short time from home, Considerable objections are made against the propriety of Collecting a fine to the amount of the whole Tour of duty from the delinquents. I have therefore thought proper to make this Brief representation of the circumstances to the Hon. Council and to request their advice and Instructions in the premises.

I am Sir, with the most sincere Esteem,

your Obedient and very humble serv^t

ROBERT SMITH,

Lieut^t Chester C^o.

Directed,

His Excellency, the President or Vice President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Robert Morris to Pres. Reed. 1781.

Office of Finance, 10th October, 1781.

Sir,

The Warrant drawn in my Favor, on Mr. Rittenhouse, has been nearly paid, and the Monies are already appropriated to the services intended. The Taxes are now collecting, wherefore it is to be expected that there will soon be more Money in the Treasury, and, as the Demands on me are very urgent and great, I shall be glad, if it is agreeable to the honorable Council, to have another Warrant. In that Case, I shall be enabled to make some Provision for the Western Department, which is in a Condition that must give Pain to every good American, and particularly to those who inhabit this State.

With great Respect,

I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most obedt and humble Servant,

ROBt MORRIS.

Directed,—His Excellency the President of Pensilvania.

Capt. Thomas Campbell to Pres. Reed, 1781.

New Town, Octr 11th, 1781.

Sir,

In May, 1779, I received Instructions from your Excellency to recruit a Company of Soldiers for the Term of Nine Months. At that time the Treasury being scarce of Money They could not furnish me with It to Enable me to Enlist those Men, Upon which I set out with a prospect of raising them upon my Own Credit untill Council had it in their power to send me a supply, part of which I recd, And there yet remains due me One Thousand pounds Continental Currr as will appear in my settlement with Councill of the 4th day of February, 1780. Tho the settlement was not until this last date, I think it will be no more than doing me justice to pay me the depreciation of the ballance from May, 1779, as it was in that time I advanced the money. I am now at this place, one of the number of those who composes the Troop of Horse from Cumberland County, being apprehensive of a scarcity of Cash before I return, Oblidges me to request the favour of you, If in your power, to put the bearer, Lieut. Smith, upon a Method to procure me the Value of the ballance due me, And am

Sir, with the greatest Esteem,

your Excellencies most Obedt

And most H'ble Servt,

THOMAS CAMPBELL.

Directed,—General Joseph Reed, Philadelphia.

Lieut. Smith, Light Dragoons.

Lt. Asher Randolph to Gen. Lacey, 1781.

Woodridge, October the 12, 1781.

Sir,

I Recev'd a Letter by one of your Light horsmen from his Excellency Governor Livingston Requesting me to Send the best accounts that I Can Collect Respecting the Motions of the Enemy on Staten Island and in New York to you which is as follows; the Army are Still on Staten Island though they have Moved Near there Shiping, there has no embarkation yet taken place as there Ships of the Line is not yet Repaired, from the Best accounts that I Can get if they embark which is Daily expected two Battalions of Grannidears are to go on bord the four Admirals ships, Namely, Digby, Graves, Whood and Drake, the Number on the Island is from six to eight thousand Men. Reports go that when they Embark they are going to the Southward, but the place of there destination Cannot be ascertained at present. If any further Movement should take place I will imediately on Receiving Intelligence of it write to Governor Livingston which I Expect will inform you.

I am Sir, your

Humble Servants,

ASHER RANDOLPH, Lieut. State troops.

Directed,

B. General Lacey, Commanding the Pensylvany Militia.

James Loughead to Pres. Reed, 1711.

Philad^{a}, 15 Oct^{r}, 1781.

May it Please Council,

The Demand for money is great to supply the wants of the Militia, not only those in emediat Servise, but those who have only Rec'd One months Pay, And who Serv'd theire full Touer of Dutey or Two months (as no more was in the Treasury for that Purpose.) And as I understand about Two Hundred Pounds Is now Pay'd into the Treasury of Mr Isaac Snowden, for Defraying sum part of that expence, Would Pray Council to grant an order, Agreeable.

And Believe me the Council's

Obd^{t} Huml. Ser^{t},

JAMES LOUGHEAD.

Directed,

The Honl. Joseph Reed, Esqr President of the Commonwealth of Pensylvania.

Gov. Livingston to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Trenton, 16 Oct., 1781.

Sir,

I just now received a Letter from Capt. Randolph* in which he writes.

"I beg leave to inform your Excellency of some particular move-
"ments of the Enemy. There has a considerable body of troops
"embarked but has not sailed, but is expected every day to sail.
"From the best accounts that I can collect they intend to make a
"rapid push to the Southward to endeavour to relieve Cornwallis.
"They take the chief of their troops on board three men of war."

I am Sir

your most humble Servt,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

Directed,

General Lacey, New Town. Governor Livingston.

Wm. Crispin to Gen. Lacey, 1781.

Newtown, Bucks County, October 17th, 1781,

Sir,

On the sixteenth Instant, the day of your departure and the discharge of the Militia at Camp Newtown, Capt. Buskirk and his Ensign Stiner of Col. McVeaghs Battn. of Philada County, came at the Head of their company with fixed Bayonets and their Drum beating the Rogues March to my Quarters and demanded for the three officers of the company each a Canteen full of Spirits, as they said, to carry them Home, I gave them for answer, that Liquor had been Issued to the whole Battalion agreeable to your orders and produced Quarter Master Davis Voucher for the same who being present convinced them that the company had drawn their full proportion which they appeared to be some what satisfied with, but in a time they broke out and swore they would have their Canteens filld, and if I would not deliver it, they would go to the Magazine and take it by Force, I forbid them at their Peril to touch the Magizine and prepared my self to defend it at all risques, thus matters stood, when Colo. McVeage who was sent for appeared, and who to pacify them, was under the necessity of giving Money out of his Pocket to purchase Rum for them, from the above and the indecent language made use of by them the said Buskirk & Stiner so unbecoming Gentlemen and officers in the Army. I lodge this as a Complaint against them necessary to be taken notice off by a

* See page 436.

Court Martial which I request you will order and direct them to appear, and notice Capt. Craig Ferrage Master, Mr. Taylor of the Light Horse of Bucks County, & Sam. Davis Qr. Mr. to Col. McVeaghs Battn. as Witnesses.

I am Sir,

your very hble. Servt.

WM. CRISPIN, C. G. S. P. M.

Directed,

Honorable Brigadier General Lacey Philadelphia.

THOMAS SCOTT TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Washington, October 19th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I am honoured with your favour dated In Council, Philada., 27th August, 1781, and the several Commissions Inclosed. Imediately on rec^t whereof I called a number of the Gen^n named in the general commission, and administered to them the necessary oaths. Also acquainting as many as I had the opportunity of, with the paragraff in your Letter which mentions the oaths of Citizenship to be taken by our Electors. I am exceeding sorry that I have to mention the great disgust this requisition gives many, which Increased from day to day untill the court, when it came to be more publicly spoken of, and it was with considerable difficulty we could prevail upon such of the Grand Jury as had not, to take the oath of fidelity. However they did, and busness was done in a tolerable manner, but the great question was about the election.

Our County, it's true, is unhapily divided into two grand parties, namely the Pennsylvania & Virginia, each claiming some special Indulgencies; the one for their steady attachment to the state, the other on account of Their Transfer, as it is called, from the other state. For my part, I think what is right is right in either party, and am well satisfied all things prior to the agreement of the two states should be forgotten, and every man stand or fall on the demerit of his deeds in futer. My earnest desire to reconcile these parties, and steady adherence to nuterality between them in hopes of acomplishing this end, however unreconciled they yet remain, hath had the effect in some measure of softening their resentment to each ether on this ocation, and bringing the resentment of both on myself; one party aledging that of Course I was of the other, and therefore had wrote to Council that the oath might be urged in order to prevent the voats of those who still felt a little sore through old prejudices. The other avering I ought of right to be of their party and was not, but had wrote for the said Instructions thereby to prevent the voats of those who were religiously scrupolous of multiplying oaths, especially as the line is not yet run, and thought

themselves intitled to vote on their known attachment to the state, and, in a word, both declared for voating without oath, and that I was the only cause of its being required. So Jelious and so unjust is the spirit of party Council will see no mistery in all this, and if Good grow to the County out of the mistake, I have no objection to the small sacrifice.

Being under an indispensable necessity of being at Westmoreland Court the very day of the election, I was not present, and know not how it was conducted. But I conceive there is the greatest necessity of the Legislature imediately ascertaining by publick act on what Terms The inhabitants of this disputed Territory shall become Lawfull Jurors, voaters, &c., which I hope the council will think of, and if necessary Lay it before the house of assembly. I have not the least doubt but the people will Generally be good and faithfull subjects if properly managed and supported.

We still groan under the dificulty of a unrun boundery line, now ocationed by Mr. Madison, the Virginia commissioner, (partly from design in himself, and partly to Gratify a small faction still in the county,) declining to Joyn with Mr. McClean in that busness, and instead thereof he has posted off a messenger to Virginia with prayers and things (as is said) that it may not be done.

I presume the Gen^n who remonstrated against the commission of the peace for the County being Issued, are, on cool reflection, convinced that it was not, nor could it be a private election as to time, that being settled by act of assembly, and as to the privity of place I believe great part was ocationed by some persons pulling down and secreting the advertisements which the trustees published for that purpose. However I think all are nearly satisfied on learning that there is a mode provided, whereby those Townships that have not elected at all may be supplyed, and also a way to displace such as by their conduct show themselves unworthy the honour and trust of a magistrate, some of which rank (I am sorry I have it to tell you) I expect will shortly be told out to the assembly, and that one of those recommended by these very Gen^n will be in the list. So liable to mistakes is human nature, the best proof of mankind is Tryal; but I confess when this proof is obtained at the expence of disgracing an hon'ble commission or betraying the trust of a people, it's too dear; but when a good man and good officer is found, I can't think the discontent of a frowning, freting party too high a price. This county is just like other parts of the world. Let a petition be formed to burn the church and Some signers may be got to it.

This county is exceeding ill provided with the laws; not a copy of the old and new in it but my own, and that cannot be called compleat, as I want the acts of the last siting; I hope we will shortly be relieved in this respect.

I Inclose my bond with surety to the president for my performance as prothonotary.

Since Mr. Cook has been mentioned as Lieut^t for Westmoreland such is the clamour raised against him, north of Youch river, even to the cry Tory, (of which however he fully acquitted himself at last court,) that he himself seems to doubt if the publick could, at present be well served by him. Mr. Hays will Tell you more of this matter; the fact is Commission Hunters abound amongst us so much that unless you have armfulls to throw to each of us you will never content us all.

I have the honour
to be with great respect,
your Excy's and Councils
most Obd't & Very Huml, Servt,
THOS. SCOTT.

Directed,

His Excellency Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of Pennsylvania.
Favour of the hon'ble Dorsey Penticost, Esqr.

SEC'Y MATLACK TO COL. JOSEPH MARSH, 1781.

In Council,
Philada., 22nd October, 1781.

Sir,

It is represented to Council that the Flag staff on Market street wharf is out of repair, and being desirous of paying a due attention to the present glorious occasion, I request you will examine the Flagg staff and put in order immediately.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

One Company of Artillery will be served with Notice to attend, as soon as the official account of the surrender of Cornwallis shall arrive.

To Col. Jos. Marsh, of the Artillery.

COM'S OF NORTHUMBERLAND TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Northumberland, October 26, 1781.

Sir,

Since the late Election, this County has almost a New Board of Commissioners. The Tax Business we have in hand, and are determined to proceed with dispatch, as far as our Circumstances and abilities will possibly admit. Many of the County books and papers are yet in Paxton (Being removed thither on the Break of Wyoming.) We find by such as are in our hands that no Credit hath been

given in the books to any person since this was a County; But it appears by several settlements with sundry Collectors since the year 1773, that diverse sums Remained in the hands of the Treasurer, And that the Inhabitants generally paid their taxes, and the Non-residents none or but Very little. We Beg to be informed with Respect to the following particulars:

1st. Is all the Taxes laid before the Revolution, and yet remain due, to be Collected in specie? Yes.*

2d. Is such Taxes as have been laid (and not Exonerated) since the Revolution, to be Collected agreeable to the Table of Depreciation and Rates of exchange fixed by Assembly? Yes.*

3d. What kind of Money may be taken, is it state money or hard, or part Both? To be taken in State Money except the taxes laid in 1781. The last to be taken agreeable to Directions of the Act of Assembly.*

4th. How is Delinquent Treasurers to be dealt with, or to whom is such accountable? To the Assembly.*

Your Excellency will please to Indulge us in these particulars with proper Directions.

As we are so Remote from the seat of Government, and the practice of Other Commis^s in Cases similar; and likewise not being furnished with all the Tax Laws, as well as sundry other Acts of Assembly, makes Advice Necessary.

We are, Sir,

Your most Obed^t Hum. Servants,

WM. ANTES,
JAS. ESPIE,
DAN. MONTGOMERY, } Com^rs.

Directed,

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq., President of Council.

Pres. of Congress to V. P. Moore, 1781.

(Circular.)

Sir,

You will receive herewith inclosed a Proclamation, recommending to the several States that the thirteenth of December next be set apart as a day of Thanksgiving and Prayer.

I have the honor to be,

With the greatest respect, Sir,

Your most obedient &

most humble servant,

THO. M'KEAN, President.†

Philadelphia, October 31st, 1781.

The Honorable William Moore, Esquire.

* Apparently the answers to be sent. They are in a different hand.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 102.

Proclamation of Congress for a Thanksgiving, &c., 1781.

Whereas, it hath pleased Almighty God, the Father of Mercies, remarkably to assist and support the United States of America, in their important struggle for Liberty against the long continued efforts of a powerful Nation; it is the duty of all ranks to observe and thankfully acknowledge the Interposition of his Providence in their Behalf. Through the whole of the contest from its first rise to this time, the influence of divine providence may be clearly perceived in many signal Instances, of which we mention but a few.

In revealing the Counsels of our Enemies, when the discoveries were seasonable and important, and the means were seemingly inadequate or fortuitous; In preserving and even improving the Union of the several States, on the breach of which our Enemies placed their greatest dependence;—in encreasing the Number and adding to the zeal and attachment of the friends of Liberty; in granting remarkable deliverances, and blessing us with the most signal success, when affairs seemed to have the most discouraging appearance;—in raising up for us a powerfull and generous ally in one of the first European powers;—in confounding the counsels of our Enemies, and suffering them to pursue such Measures as have most directly contributed to frustrate their own desires and Expectations; above all.

In making their extreme cruelty to the Inhabitants of these States when in their power, and their savage devastation of Property, the very means of cementing our Union, and adding Vigor to every Effort in opposition to them.

And as we cannot help leading the good people of these States to a retrospect on the Events which have taken place since the beginning of the War, so we recommend in a particular manner to their observation, the Goodness of God in the year now drawing to a conclusion;

In which,

The Confederation of the United States has been compleated; In which there have been so many Instances of prowess and success in our armies, particularly in the southern States, where notwithstanding the difficulties with which they had to struggle, they have recovered the whole Country which the Enemy had over-run, leaving them only a post or two, on or near the Sea.

In which

We have been so powerfully & effectually assisted by our Allies, while in all the conjunct operations the most perfect harmony has subsisted in the allied army.

In which,

There has been so plentiful a harvest, and so great abundance of the fruits of the Earth of every kind, as not only enables us easily to supply the wants of our Army, but gives comfort and happiness to the whole people; and

In which

After the success of our allies by Sea, a General of the first Rank, with his whole army, has been captured by the allied forces, under the direction of our Commander in chief.

It is therefore recommended to the several states to set apart the thirteenth day of December next, to be religiously observed as a day of Thanksgiving and prayer; that all the people may assemble on that day, with grateful hearts, to celebrate the praises of our gracious Benefactor; to confess our manifold sins; to offer up our most fervent supplications to the God of all Grace, that it may please him to pardon our offences, and incline our hearts for the future, to keep all his Laws; to comfort & relieve all our brethren who are in Distress or Captivity; to prosper our Husbandmen, and give success to all engaged in lawful Commerce; to impart Wisdom and Integrity to our Counsellors, Judgment & fortitude to our officers and Soldiers; to protect & prosper our illustrious Ally, and favour our united Exertions for the speedy Establishment of a safe, honorable and lasting peace; to bless all Seminaries of Learning; and cause *the knowledge of God to cover the Earth as the waters cover the Seas.*

Done in Congress this twenty-sixth day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, and in the sixth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Attest, CHA. THOMSON, Secy.*

Petition of Richard Rundle, 1781.

To the honourable William Moore, Esqr, Vice President, & the honourable the Members of the Supreme Executive Council.

The petition of Richard Rundle, in behalf of Daniel Rundle, Humbly sheweth,

That, pursuant to the Act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth made and passed the thirty-first Day of March last, for enlarging the Time of the Surrender of the sd Daniel Rundle, in Order to take his Trial for Treason, the sd Daniel hath used all possible Diligence to hasten his Arrival in America. That to avoid the Danger of a Disappointment in arriving too late to save his Attainder, he took his passage to the City of New York, where he is now arrived. That he is very desirous of coming forward to this City; but [is] apprehensive of being interrupted by the American Guards which environ New York. Wherefore he humbly prays, that your Honours will be graciously pleased to furnish him with a passport for himself & one Chest with his wearing Apparel, whereby he may be enabled to arrive here & surrender himself up to Justice & a full Enquiry into his Conduct.—That he humbly hopes his

* See proclamation of Pres. Moore, Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 124.

Coming by the Way of New York will not be thought blameable, when it is considered what extreme Danger attended him in any other Course. as a Capture by the British would very probably have delayed him until his Life would have been forfeited to the Laws; —& also considering, that a person coming from amongst the Enemy could not, if he wished it, do them any possible Benefit, or this Country any Damage.

25th October, 1781. RICH'D RUNDLE.*

CHAS. THOMSON (SEC'Y) TO V. P. MOORE, 1781.

Philadelphia, Monday, Novr. 5th, 1781.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that this day pursuant to the articles of Confederation, the United States in Congress Assembled proceeded to the choice of a President and have elected for the ensuing year, His Excellency John Hanson.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
your most Obedt humble servt,
CHA. THOMSON.

The hon'ble William Moore, Esqr.

LT. JAMES MARSHAL TO PRES. REED, 1781.

Washington County, 6th Novr., 1781.

Sr.,

I have had the honour to Receive your favours of the 23d July and 24th August,† some time past, in which I had orders to furnish Mr. McClean with a guard to run the State line, and as soon as Circumstances would admit to Compleat the Militia of this County, which I have accordingly done, notwithstanding all the opposition I met with, and without the assistance of any of the Sub-Lieutenants the Militia are now in full form Except the troop of horse, and one Company of foot who has dispatched a Commissioner to the government of Virginia in order to know with Certainty (as they say) whether they are Ceded to Pennsylvania or not, as these and a few other officers have not yet Received their Commissions I Cannot by this opportunity make the proper returns, but Expect to do it in a short time. I have also done every thing in my power to have the line Closed and Mr. McClean ever ready to engage in the Business, but have been disapointed different times on account of large parties of Indians making Incursions in this County, which oblidged me to send Express to Mr. McClean and order the guard Raised for the Commissioners to the Frontiers, as soon as Circumstances would

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 96.
† See pages 304, 367.

admit I raised a new guard of Sixty good men well Equiped, Employed Chain Carriers and Rendevoused them near to the place of Begining, but Mr. Maddison the Commissioner on the part of Virginia evaded the Busness, and Mr McClean Conceiving his Commission and Instructions did not Empower him to act but in conjunction with the Commissioner from Virginia Could not with propriety extend the line himself, therefore our boundaries is not yet ascertained which may Cause some Difficulty in Calling out the Militia according to their Class, as I must acknowledge that too many in Consequence of the unsettled state of Boundaries avail themselves of a pretence to withhold their services from the public At a time they are most wanted, Notwithstanding I am still of the opinion there is a greater necessity for the service of the Militia of this frontier County against the Immediate Enemies of the Country, and it would have a greater tendency to promote our own safety, than their best services with General Clark at Kaintucky possibly Could do. I would also beg leave to observe that the gentlemen of Westmoreland County whom I Consulted on the occasion, particularly Mr. Scott, Colonel Hays and Cook were formerly and now are of the same opinion, also the principal Inhabitants of this County except the new state party. I would also Inform your Excellency that the gentlemen of Westmorland County whom you Intended should Communicate to us Councils approbation of General Clarks Expedition so far as to encourage voluntiers, have not done it; altho' I never did anything to prevent Voluntiers being raised for that service, but most heartily Reprobated the plan of drafting the Militia of this County under the government of Virginia, and the manner in which the General and Colonel Penticost Treated them.

Before I Received your Excellency's Letter of the 24th August I had applied to Colonel Hays for ammunition and received twenty pounds powder and twenty of Lead, which was all they Could spare from Westmoreland County. I then applied to Colonel Broadhead and Received one hundred pounds powder and one hundred pounds Lead (on the Credit of this state,) which I expect Council will enable me to to Replace as soon as Convenient, and that a Quantity of arms and ammunition will be sent to this County before next spring together with such orders as Council may think proper Respecting the frontiers and Drafting the Militia.

I have the honor to be
with Singular Respect and attachment
your Excellency's most obedient
and very Humble Servant,
JAMS. MARSHAL, L. W. C.

On public service.

His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Honour'd by Col. Hays.

Robert Morris to V. P. Moore, 1781.

Office of Finance, Novr 10, 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honor to observe, that the last warrant of Council, in my Favor, has been paid. I need not mention that the Money is expended, as that and much more, has been advanced for the State, long before the Receipt of it. The Weekly Expenditure on account of Rations, is very considerable, indeed much more so in itself, than all which has been furnished to me from the Treasury. My Engagements being very great I shall be glad to receive another Warrant for a Sum as considerable as may be convenient.

I am Sir, very respectfully
your most ob^t & humble S^r,
ROB^t MORRIS.

The Honble Vice President of Pensilvania.

Robert Morris to V. P. Moore, 1781.

Office of Finance, November 12th, 1781.

Sir,

I have been honoured with your note of this day, accompanied with a draft on the State Treasurer, for Thirty Thousand Pounds Specie, to be applied in discharge of my Engagements, for the Specific Supplies required by the United States, from the State of Pennsylvania, which as fast as the Money is received, shall be complied with, I am not insensible to the attention of the Honourable Council, on this, and other Occasions.

and have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant.
ROB^t MORRIS.

The Honorable Vice President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolution of Congress, 1781.

By The United States in Congress Assembled,
November 14th, 1781.

On a report of a Committee consisting of Mr Randolph, Mr Boudinot, Mr Carroll, appointed to prepare the form of notice to be given to the legislative or executive authority of the State of Connecticut on the Petition from the Supreme executive council of Pensylvania, respecting a dispute between the two States.

Congress agreed to the following resolutions, Whereas, the President and Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pensylvania have presented a Petition to the United States in Congress Assem-

bled, Stating that a controversy has long subsisted between the said State of Pensylvania and the State of Connecticut respecting sundry lands lying within the northern boundary of the State of Pensylvania and praying for a hearing in pursuance of the ninth article of the Confederation.

Resolved,

That the fourth Monday in June next be assigned for the appearance of the said States of Pensylvania and Connecticut by their lawful Agents at the place in which Congress shall then be sitting.

Resolved,

That the form of the notice be as follows to be transmitted by the Secretary agreeably to the articles of Confederation.

By the United States in Congress Assembled in the City of Philadelphia on the 14th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty one, and in the sixth year of Independence.

To the legislative authority of the State of Connecticut, it is hereby made known that pursuant to the ninth article of the Confederation, the Supreme executive Council of the State of Pensylvania have presented a Petition to Congress, stating that a controversy has long subsisted between the said State of Pensylvania and the State of Connecticut, respecting sundry lands lying within the Northern boundary of the said State of Pensylvania, and praying for a hearing in pursuance of the ninth article of the Confederation, and that the fourth Monday in June next, is assigned for the appearance of the said States of Pensylvania and Connecticut by their lawful Agents at the place in which Congress shall then sit, to proceed in the premises as by the said Confederation is directed.

By order,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.*

Indorsed,—Read in Council Novr 22† 1781,

T. M., Sec'y.

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‡President Moore to Speaker of Assembly, 1781.

In Council, Philad^a. Nov. 20, 1781.

Sir,

The enclosed letter from the Honorable Robt Morris Esqr, Superintendant of Finance, dated the 17th of November instant,

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., pp. 123, 128.

† No printed minutes of this date.

‡ He was elected President on the 14th inst., receiving 64 votes (or unanimously) and James Potter, Esq., Vice President, receiving 38 votes,—his competitor, James Ewing 28 votes—and proclaimed on same day at the Court House. See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 111, 114, for the election, and an account of the procession.

with several resolves of Congress of the 30th of October, the 2nd of November & of the 12th of November instant relative to Finance, came to hand this day and I transmit them to you to be laid before the General Assembly without delay. I have also enclosed to you a letter from the Board of War, dated the 19th of November instant, respecting British Prisoners which is also proper to be laid before the General Assembly. And also several depositions respecting a robbery committed on the Treasury of the County of Bucks.

I am Sir,
your humble servant.

Directed,
Hon'ble Fred. A. Muhlenburg, Esq., Speaker of the General Assembly.

Chas. Thomson, Sec'y of Congress, to Pres. Moore, 1781.

Secretary's office, Nov. 21, 1781.

Sir,
I have the honor to enclose a copy of the proceedings of Congress* in consequence of the petition presented by his Excellency, the president and the supreme executive Council, relative to the disputes between the states of Pensylvania & Connecticut. And beg leave to inform you that agreeably to order, I have transmitted the notice to his excellency, the Governor of Connecticut.

I am, with respect,
Your excellency's most obedient &
most humble serv.,
CHA. THOMSON.

Petition of D. & R. Rundle, 1781.

To his Excellency, the president & the honourable, the Members of the Supreme Executive Council.

The petition of Daniel Rundle & Richard Rundle.

Humbly sheweth,

That about the twenty-seventh Day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & Eighty your petitioner, Daniel Rundle, was required by the proclamation of your honourable Board to surrender himself to some Justice of this State, upon pain of Attainder of Treason. That shortly after a still was seized and taken by the Agents of Council for the city of Philadelphia, as the property of your said petitioner, Daniel Rundle, which was and is the property of your petitioner, Richard Rundle. That the said still has lain ever since in the Hands of your s^d Agents, without any sale being made or the property thereof being ascertained or enquired into. That the still is in a situation where it has already received Damage,

* See page 446,—also Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 125.

& is in Danger of receiving further Damage; and your petitioner, Richard Rundle, has an opportunity of employing the s^d still to advantage, if he can receive it in the course of the present Week. That your petitioner, or Daniel Rundle, hath surrendered himself to the Chief Justice of this Commonwealth, agreeably to the terms of the s^d proclamation, & the Act of Assembly for enlarging the Time for his surrender; so that they humbly hope that no Reason can any longer subsist for detaining the s^d still, if it even were his property. That the Agents, upon being applied to, have expressed their Desire of receiving the Direction of your honourable Board in the premises. Wherefore your petitioners most humbly pray the order & Direction of your Excellency & your Honours to the s^d Agents for restoring the s^d still to your petitioner, Richard Rundle.

And your petitioners will every pray, &c.

DAN. RUNDLE,
RICH^d RUNDLE.

21 Nov., 1781.

Indorsed,

The Petition of Daniel & Richard Rundle. Read in Council Nov. 28, 1781. Rejected. T. M., Sec'y.

Ebenezer Hazard to Pres. Moore, 1781.

Philadelphia, Novr 21st, 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honor to inform your Excellency that, agreeably to the Purport of the enclosed Resolution of Congress, I have spent some Time in the Eastern States, and made a valuable Collection of Materials for their History, but being called from thence by the Business of the Post Office Department, which will detain me some Weeks in this City, I propose employing my Leisure Hours in making the Collection for this State:—will your Excellency therefore permit me to request your Order to the Persons who keep the Records of the State, to admit me to an Inspection of them, and indulge me with the Liberty of taking a Volume at a Time to the House of Matthew Clarkson, Esqr, (my present Residence) for the Purpose of extracting such Parts as may conduce to the valuable End in View.

I am, very respectfully,
your Excellency's most obedient
and very humble Servant,
EBEN. HAZARD.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 122. He published in 1792 and 1794, 2 vols. in 4to.,—entitled "Historical Collections," for which he was at the above date soliciting materials. He was father of the present Editor.

Resolution of Congress, 1778.

In Congress, July 20, 1778.

The Committee, to whom was referred the letter of the 11th, from Ebenezer Hazard, Esq.; and the papers thereto relating, report,

"That they have had the same under consideration, and having conversed with Mr. Hazard upon the subject, are of opinion, that Mr. Hazard's undertaking is laudable, and deserves the public patronage and encouragement, as being productive of public utility." Whereupon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Governors, Presidents and Executive Powers of the several States in this union, to assist Mr. Hazard, and give facility to his labours, in making a collection of the various State papers, relative to the origin and progress of the several European settlements in North America, and such as relate to the rise and progress of the present war with Great Britain. That, for this purpose, he be admitted to an inspection of public records, and be furnished without expence, with copies of such papers as he may judge will conduce to the valuable end he hath in view.

That it be also recommended to such private gentlemen, as may have collected any materials of the kind above mentioned, to assist Mr. Hazard in his laudable undertaking.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

Representation of the Quakers, 1781.

To the President and Executive Council, the General Assembly of Pennsilvania and Others whom it may concern.

The following Representation on behalf of the People called Quakers,

Sheweth,

That the Outrages and Violences committed on the Property, and on divers of the Persons of the Inhabitants of Philadelphia, of our Religious Society, by Companies of licentious People parading the Streets, destroying the Windows and Doors of our Houses, breaking into and plundering some of them, on the Evening of the 24th of last month,* increases the Occasion of our present Address to you who are in the Exercise of the Powers of Civil Government, which is, in itself, honorable and originally instituted for the Support of public Peace & good order and the Preservation of the just Rights of the People.

* Rejoicings at surrender of Cornwallis. See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 181.

Although we believe that most of you are not unacquainted with our religious Principles in general, and the Reasons of our dissent from other professed Christians, in divers Matters relating to Faith & Practice, yet as such riotous Proceedings are shameful to the Christian name & dishonorable to Government, and many of us have suffered great Loss and Damage, We apprehend it our duty to bring into your View, the Grounds of our not complying with the vain Modes of Rejoicing, in which many indulge themselves; as also for the Information of others, who through misapprehension, or prejudice, too freely attribute our Conduct to Obstinacy and a party-spirit; and are thus prompted wrongfully to judge and condemn us.

It therefore appears to us requisite to put you & them in mind, that at the beginning of the Reformation, a few Centuries past, the Day of the Lord gradually broke forth in divers Nations of Europe, raising up pious Men to declare against the gross Superstitions & Impositions, contrary to the nature and spirit of Christianity, which for many ages had prevailed, and enabling them to stand faithful, many of them, even unto Death, according to the discoveries of duty made known to them in that revival of Gospel dawn on their Minds. And in process of Time it pleased Almighty God further to cause his glorious Day of Light to advance, and the Sun of Righteousness to shine in great brightness, whereby not only the gross, but also the more specious, as well as minute branches of Corruption were manifested to our worthy Ancestors: which divine principle of Light & Truth we also profess.

In this manifestation of Gospel Light they clearly saw, & many of us are now also firmly convinced, among other important Truths, that the Lusts of Ambition, Avarice, Envy and Emulation, from whence Wars, Strife and Contention about earthly Things proceed, are the Fruits of the depravity and corruption of the human Heart, which must be expelled and eradicated in the spiritual Work of christian Redemption. And they not only saw that they must cease from all outward Hostilities, but that their Conversation and Conduct must be consistent with the doctrine and precepts of the Gospel;—that as they could not join with others in sheding the Blood of their Fellow men, for whom Christ died, who came into the World to save Men's Lives & not to destroy them, neither could they unite in rejoicing for the Advantages gained by such bloodshed: as they could not fight with the Fighters, neither could they triumph with the Conquerers. And therefore they were not to be prevailed upon to make a shew of conformity in such rejoicings, by placing Lights in any part of the Fronts of their Houses, or other compliances of the like nature and tendency, well knowing the Levity & Folly attending such Things, to be inconsistent with religious Gravity and Sobriety, and with that Godly Fear and reverence which ought at all Times to dwell on the Minds of those who profess to be followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It was likewise shewed to them, in the same divine Light, as well as by the doctrine of the Holy Scriptures, that the Sons of God were led by the Spirit of God, & that all voluntary Humility and Will-Worship must be laid aside by them; & therefore they could not subject themselves, in the Worship of Almighty God, to the Will and Commands of Men, & as they were redeemed from insincerity, they could not dissemble, by seeming to conform when in Heart and Spirit they did not, but continued to open their Shops and follow their lawful Occupations on Days appointed by human Authority for the Observations of public Fasts, Feasts or Thanksgiving, as usual on other Days. This was their constant conscientious Practice, that they might stand clear in the discharge of their Duty towards God, and with intent that others through their Example might be induced to reflect upon the Vanity and impropriety of those Observances and Tumults, and their incoherence with the inward Life, Spirit & Virtue of true Religion & christian Sobriety.

And notwithstanding they were charged with being actuated by a Spirit of singularity, obstinacy & a Desire to be contrary to others, yet they demonstrated that in whatsoever they could comply agreeable to good Conscience, they were ready to do it. Thus they concurred with the propriety and decency of other professed Christians in appropriating the First day of the Week for the performance of public Worship, believing it also to be their duty to suspend their Attention to their outward Concerns on other Days, and to meet often together, according to the Practice of the primitive Christians, for the like pious Purpose.

It is not from irritation, or for the Support of ancient Custom, but from a conviction of Judgment, that we are led into the same Practice with our Ancestors; being firmly perswaded that the Holy Spirit will in like manner lead and guide such who are faithful to its dictates, in their Conduct and Conversation amongst Men; and especially in matters of Faith and Worship. And therefore we can neither really Worship, nor put on any part of the Appearance thereof, merely in conformity with the Injunctions of human Authority; believing it our duty rather to shew our Neighbours, by our Practice, that in this Gospel Day, the Holy Spirit hath led us out of the formality of public Fasts: Which, tho' in practice under the Jewish Dispensation, it does not appear they are enjoined on Christians, either by Precept or Example from the New Testament. Christ himself, in his spiritual appearance, being the Teacher of his People, and when he leads them to Fast, he directs that it be in private, & that they appear not unto Men to fast.* This we believe to be our duty, as a People, to bear constant & open Testimony unto, & also to maintain it fully & not in part only, lest by falling short therin, we should deny Christ our Lord before Men, whom we ought to acknowledge before all, & who hath said, "whosoever shall deny me "before Men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in "Heaven."

* Matt. 6. 18.

Our forefathers under full conviction of the rectitude of their principles, and uprightness of their Intentions, of which they had given indubitable Proofs, through a long Series of severe Persecutions in their native Land, borne with much firmness & christian patience, became at length entrusted with and entituled to, many valuable extensive Rights and Priviledges, which induced them, at their own Expence, to encounter the dangers of the Seas and many other hazards & difficulties, to settle and improve this Country, at that time a wilderness; having first in concert with their much beloved Friend, the wise William Penn, formed such a constitution of Government, as gave the most promising prospect of securing to themselves & their Posterity, the free and full enjoyment of liberty of Conscience, which they preferred to all temporal Considerations, and were constantly careful to preserve, not only to themselves, but to all Persons, of every other religious Denomination, who dwell among them. And for a considerable number of years, the administration of the Laws was chiefly committed to Men of the same liberal Principles, that by the divine Blessing on their pious concern for the present & future Prosperity and Happiness of the People, piety and virtue were promoted & encouraged, Vice & Irreligion were discountenanced; peace harmony & concord prevailed, & the enjoyment of religious & civil Liberty was inviolably preserved. Thus Pennsylvania became celebrated for the mildness & liberal temper of its Government, & great numbers of sober Persons of tender Consciences, of different religious Professions, found a quiet Retreat from the oppression and Persecution, to which they had been subjected in various parts of Europe.

It must therefore appear strange and extraordinary in the view of candid Enquirers, that so evident a Change and Contrast have taken place; and that we, many of whom are the descendants of the first settlers, professing the same religious Principles & connected in Interest, affection and duty to the real good and welfare of our Country, who have never forfeited our Birthright, should now be Vilified, Persecuted, Imprisoned & excluded from our just Liberties and Priviledges, not only by Laws calculated to oppress us & the Execution of them, in some Places, committed to men of avaricious, profligate principles, who have made a Prey of the Innocent & Industrious, to the great Loss and damage of some, & the almost Ruin of others, but scurrilous Publications, & other invidious means used, by our Adversaries, to calumniate & reproach us with opprobrious names, in order to inflame the minds of the Ignorant and impose on the Credulous to our prejudice; when upon an impartial, candid Examination, we trust it will appear, that in the course of the Commotions which have unhappily prevailed, no just cause of offence will be found against us in the general, but that we have endeavoured to maintain our peaceable religious Principles, to preserve a good Conscience towards God & to manifest our good will to all Men.

We are not incited by party-views, or vindictive motives in this Representation, but to awaken your cool and dispassionate attention

to our multiplied Sufferings, and the abuses we have received, knowing that Magistracy is intended for a Terror to Evil-doers & an Encouragement to the Virtuous. But where the necessary Care & Exertions are not used for the prevention and suppression of Profanity, Tumults and Outrage, & a virtuous part of the Community are oppressed & insulted, the true end of Government is neglected, & anarchy, Confusion, Contempt of Authority & insecurity to Persons & Property will succeed. And altho' public Fasts may be proclaimed, & Days under the name of Humiliation, recommended & appointed, & Confession of Sin and transgression verbally made, yet unless there be a true and sincere Fasting from Ambition, Strife, Ill-will, Animosities, Infidelity, Fraud, Luxury, Revelling, Drunkeness, oppression & all manner of Evil, it cannot be a Fast, or acceptable Day to the Lord; nor can we have a well grounded Hope, that the Scourge with which the Inhabitants have been visited, will be removed, & Days of peace & tranquility restored.

The dispensation of War, bloodshed & Calamity, which hath been permitted to prevail on this Continent, is very solemn & awful, demanding the most serious & heartfelt attention of all Ranks & denominations among the People, individually to consider & examine how far we are each of us really & sincerely engaged to bring forth Fruits of true Repentance & amendment of Life, agreeable to the Spirit & doctrine of the Gospel. And altho' we have been exposed to great abuse and unchristian Treatment, we wish to be enabled through the assistance of divine Grace, to cherish in ourselves, & inculcate in others with whom we have an Influence, that disposition of forgiveness of Injuries, enjoined by the Precept & Example of Christ, our holy Lawgiver, & to manifest our desires & Endeavours to promote the real Good of our Country, & that we are,

Your Friends,

Signed in & on behalf of a Meeting of ye Representatives of the said People in Philad^a the 22^d of 11th Mo. 1781.

JOHN DRINKER,* Clerk.

Robert Morris and Richard Peters to Pres. Moore, 1781.

War office, Nov. 24, 1781.

Sir,

A Regiment of Federal Troops will be stationed in this City for the ensuing winter, & are daily expected. On their Arrival, the Militia now doing Duty here, will be discharged therefrom. The

* See Col. Rec. Vol. XIII. p. 131. Official information of the capture of Cornwallis was received in Philadelphia, Oct. 24, having taken place on the 19th. Congress went in procession to the German Lutheran Church and returned thanks to Almighty God for the success of the allied French and American armies. The City was brilliantly illuminated in the evening. Fireworks intended for this evening were postponed on account of weather till the next. See Shallus's Tables, vol. II, p. 325. Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 143.

Barracks are much out of order & should be put in immediate Repair. By a Regulation of the Hon'ble Council, communicated to the Board of War, it was signified that the Barracks being the Property of the State, should be under the Direction of your Excellency & the Hon'ble Council. We have therefore to request that so many of the Rooms as are necessary for the Accommodation of the Troops, be put in Order by the State, & the Use of them, with the necessary Barrack Utensils, be granted to the United States. A Survey of the Barracks when the Troops enter them, & an Inventory of the Utensils being made & taken, we agree, on Behalf of the United States, that they shall be returned to the State in the same Condition they are received. We request also that the State will be pleased to appoint a Barrack Master, if no such Officer is already apppointed.

We have the Honour to be,

With great Respect,

Your very obedt. Servts,

ROBT. MORRIS,
Superintendant of Finance.

RICHARD PETERS,
Executing the Duties of the War Department, by authority & Request of Congress.

Directed,

On the Service of the United States.

His Excellency, William Moore, Esq., President, & the Hon'ble, The Supreme Executive Council of Pennsilvania.

William Scott to Pres. Moore, 1781.

York, Nov. 28th, 1781.

Sir,

On rec^t of orders from the Honourable Council of the 11th of Sepr last, I call^d the Light Horsemen of York County to hold themselves in readiness for Marching at the shortest notice. On which, upward of thirty met at Marsh Creek and Chose officers. Near half the number have enroled themselves at Hanover, but have not Clas^d. The officers Elected are William M'Pherson, Captain; Robert Morrison, Lieutenant; and James Gettyes, Cornet.

Request your Excellency will please to send Commissions for them.

I am, Sir, your Excellency's

Obedient, Humble Servt,

WM. SCOTT.

His Excellency, William Moore, Esq.

The enclosed is to fill a vacancy ocasioned by Josiah Scott, Esq, removing out of York County. Have sent this return, Praying your Excellency and the Honourable Council to appoint one of those two Gentlemen to the office of a Justice of the Peace.

I'm your Excellency's
Humble Servant,
WM. SCOTT.

Adam Hubley to Pres. Moore, 1781.

Lancaster, December 1st, 1781.

Sir,

I have to acquaint your Excellency, that the tour of duty of the Militia, at this place will shortly expire, a relieve will be necessary in the course of a fortnight. An order from Council for that purpose will be duly attended to.

I am particularly called upon by many respectable Inhabitants, of this County, to address your Excellency and Council, in their behalf, and represent their Grievances, with respect to the Militia service, of which they conceive an unequal proportion is thrown upon them.

As to the details of the state at large, I am not acquainted with, shall therefore not presume to touch upon that subject. But beg leave to set forth, that under the former & present Militia Laws, the Militia of this County have compleated (excepting an eighth part of the third tour) three full & compleat tours. This they say is at least six classes more, than some of our Neighbouring Counties have furnished, as is represented to them (they say) from good Authority.

I wish not to trouble your Excellency & Council in pointing out the many inconveniencies, which has attended the frequent calls.—I will only among the many set forth one, that is the pressing demand for Money by those people who have pay to demand, and the little we have as yet got to give them. The following reason for not being more forward with the collections is truly this—we must either ruin nearly one-half of the Country, or allow time to make up money. The greater part which we have received—the Sub-Lieutenants, have been oblig'd to seize on property & sell it, from numbers of people (Delinquents) who have become so, not from disaffection or opposition to our cause, but absolute necessity, which has brought many with their families to the doon of want & ruin.

I am well persuaded sufficient Money, by no means is among us to satisfy all the public demands unless time is given. Rather than to ruin & distress the Country (which I am well persuaded is not the design of the Law) we have in many instances of late given time, and more particularly, for this reason—the property which has been seiz'd heretofore was sold for less than a sixth part of its value, owing

to prejudice (& indeed want of Money) people have in purchasing at these sales, and I solemnly declare to your Excellency & Council, that Effects to the value of £100, have been sold to pay Ten, & so in proportion.

I cannot say the people are in anywise backward, or unwilling to comply, with every demand so far as lies in their power, but the very sickly season which we have had in the Country, has absolutely put it out of their power to have rendered either their personal services or put them sufficiently forward to pay their fines.

I would therefore beg your Excellency & the Honble Council would take into your Consideration this matter and if the Complaint appear just to order the next call of Militia for a relieve from some of the Counties who are most difficient, which will allow us time to collect Money and pay the demands on us.

Should the relieve be demanded from this County, a part of them (being the next class for duty) will have to come from upper Paxton, some not less than seventy Miles from this place.

I am, with every respect,

your Excellencys most obed't,

& very hum. servt.

AD^m HUBLEY, J. L^t L^t C^o.

Sundry Petitions from the County on the same subject have been forwarded to me, to lay before Council, which will be forwarded immediately. I am inform'd there are more but they have not come to me as yet.

Should Militia be ordered from any other county it will be necessary they should be here on the 17th instant, on the 18th the present Guards tour is expired.

Directed,

On public Service.

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, Presid't of Pennsy^a. Philadelphia.

Dr. Robert Johnston to Council, 1781.

Philadelphia, Decr 3^d, 1781.

Gentlemen,

Being a Native off, & having a right to the Privileges of a free Citizen of this State: also haveing entered into the Service of the United States (with the Troops of this State, at a very early Period,) in defence of their Rights & Liberties, & having steadily prosecuted the glorious Object, in the Line of my Profession, untill this Hour, I most humbly conceive, I am entitled to all the Bene-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 141.

fits & Emoliments granted by a late Act of your Legislature, "entitled an Act to Settle & Adjust the Accounts of the Troops of this State, &c."

I apprehend there is no need for my troubling your Honors with a detail of my different Appointments from Congress & points of Duty performed, these things being well known to some of your honorable Body.

I humbly request that your honorable Body will be pleased to order the Auditors to Adjust my Account, agreeable to the before mentioned Act.*

I have the honor to be

Your Honors

most obedient humble Servant,

ROB^t JOHNSTON, P. & S. & D. P.

Directed,

The Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

GENL. WM. IRVINE TO PRES. OF COUNCIL,—DEATH OF COL. LOCHRY, 1781.

Fort Pitt, December 3^d, 1781.

Sir,

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that this Country has got a severe stroke by the loss of Colonel Lochry and about one hundred (tis said) of the best men of Westmoreland County, including Captain Stockely & his Company of Rangers, They were going down the Ohio on General Clarke's Expedition, many accounts agree that they were all killed or taken at the mouth of the Miame River I believe chiefly killed—this misfortune added to the failure of General Clarke's Expedition, has filled the people with great dismay many talk of retiring to the East side of the Mountain early in the Spring—Indeed there is great reason to apprehend that the Savages, & perhaps the British from Detroit will push us hard in the Spring—and I believe there never were Posts—nor a Country in a Worse state of defence—Notwithstanding I am well informed there has been sundry meetings of people at different places, for the purpose of concerting plans to emigrate into the Indian Country—there to establish a Government for themselves—What the result of their meetings were I can not say—and as I do not intend to interfere in Civil matters, have not taken any notice of the affair—From what observations I have been able to make I am of opinion there is many obvious reasons that no time should be losed in running the line between Virginia and Pennsylvania.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. XIII., p. 187.

Civil Government will never be fairly established till then, nor even the Militia drawn out with regularity for their own defence. I have no reason as yet to complain of the people for the refractory ungovernable loose manners generally ascribed to them—I assure you Sir, my pity for their situation, is rather excited, than Wrath or indignation kindled. I have good grounds to believe that the Settlements at Canetucke & the falls will brake up—in which case I fear a number of adventurers who talk of going down to New Orleans with Flour will be kill'd or taken. Council may depend during my stay here, that no exertions in my power shall be wanting in every thing that may tend to the welfare of the State or protection of the Inhabitants as far as consistent with my duty as an officer of the United States.

I have the honour to be,
with great Respect, Sir,
Your Excellencies
most obedient Servant,
WM. IRVINE.

P. S. Please to excuse the omission of personal address, we have not heard here who has been elected President.

W. J.*

SECY. MATLACK TO SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY, 1781.

In Council Philada. Decr. 5, 1781.

Sir,

The Council having received and read several depositions concerning divers robberies said to be committed on Daniel Pettit and Job Barton, collectors of the county of Bucks, and on John Brown and Frederick Taylor collectors of the county of Chester, have thought proper to order those depositions to be laid before the General assembly, I have therefore, enclosed them to you, and request you will please to lay them before the house.

I have the honor to be,
your most obedient servant,†

The Honourable Frederick A Muhlenburg Esq., Speaker of Gen. assembly.

JAMES SMITH TO PRES. MOORE, 1781.

Philadelphia 7th, December, 1781.

Sir,

On the 7th of Febuary 1781, I sold to Col. Saml. Lyon Commissary of Purchases for Cumberland County 150 head of Beef Cattle for the use of the publick, to supply the artificers & others at

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., pp. 155, 167.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII. pp. 120, 139.

the Continental works near Carlisle who at that time were in the greatest distress, and near breaking out into an open meeting for want of provisions.

By Contract between Coll. Lyon & me which I have the Honour to lay before your Excellency & Council, he obligated himself to pay me for one hundred Head at one shilling ℔ pound State Money & fifty head more at 10d ℔ pound like Money in two weeks from the date of the article or replace the said Cattle by the 15th of May following at the choise and option of Coll. Lyon.

I also take the Liberty to lay before Council Coll. Lyons Draft on Jacob Morgan Esquire for the amount of the Cattle being £127, 11, 8, State Money of which there was none then in circulation, other than that commonly called Island Money as also appears by Coll. Lyon Certificate.

I beg leave to mention the great Trouble & Expense I have been subjected to in my endeavours to obtain this Money, twice before I have attended 10 or 12 weeks, besides the disappointment & derangement, the want of it has occasioned to my circumstances approaching nearly to the ruin of myself & Family.

I therefore Request that your Excellency and the Honourable Council will take such Order in this affair as will render speedy & effectual Justice to

Your Excellencys most obedient,

and most Hble. Servant,

JAS. SMITH.

His Excellency the President & the Hon. Council.

Adam Orth to Pres. Moore, 1781.

Lebanon December 7th 1781.

Sir,

I Beg leave to inform your excellency that I repeatedly Applied to Bartram, Gailbraith, late Lieut. Lan. County, James Crawford, Sub. Lieut. & Stewart late Colo. of the 2d Battalion of Lancaster County Militia for the returns of their Battalion that I might be enabled to have the Arrears of said Battalion properly Collected. They informed me that the Captains of said Battalion neglected to give the returns into the Hands of said Colonel. As there remains upwards of One Hundred & Fifty thousand pounds uncollected in Lancaster County, and by all probability shall not be able to proceed with satisfaction to the other Battalions in the Collection of the Arrears if not speedily supplied with the returns of said Battalion. Therefore I hope your Excellency and the Honorable Council will Adopt such proper ways & means to obtain the said papers and that such satisfaction be given to the good people who have allwaya rendered their personal service or paid their Fines

agreeable to Law, as to your Excellency & the Honourable Council shall appear to be Just and proper.

I also Beg leave to refer your Excellency and the Honourable Council to the latter end of the 15th section of a Certain Act of General Assembly, entitled an Act for the repeal of so much of the Laws of this Common Wealth as make the Continental bills of credit and the Bills emitted by the resolves or Acts of the Assemblies of the said Common Wealth a legal Tender, & for other purposes therein mentioned, Containing amongst others the following words viz. All Fines penalties & forfeitures, imposed by any Acts of the Assembly of this Common Wealth, since the revolution shall be levied Collected and recovered in so much Gold & silver Money as the sums specified in the respective acts for the said Fines, Penalties & forfeitures, were worth at the several Times of passing the said Acts according to the rata of depreciation aforesaid. After Considering the Contents of the said Act, I thought proper to stop the collection of the said Arrears, untill I shall receive a proper Answer from Your Excellency & the Hbble. Council, whether the Depreciation upon the arrearages can be demanded or not. The Collecting Fees upon the Nominal sum of the said Arrears (and that in state Money only) are so trifling small that I am afraid I shall not have it in my Power to get the same Collected, unless something will be done respecting the same. Your Excellency & the Honourable supreme Executive Council will please to take the premises into Consideration & give such proper directions as will sufficiently enable me to proceed in the Collection of the said Arrearages.

I am with respect,

Your Exellencies most obt. & very Hbble. servt.

ADAM ORTH Sub Lt. L. C.

P. S. Your early Answer would be very Acceptable.

On public Service.

Directed,

To His Exellency William Moore Esqr., President of the Supreme Executive Council Philadelphia.

Trustees of University to Assembly, 1781.

Sir,

By Desire of the Board of Trustees of the University I am to request you as one of the Trustees to mention to the House of Assembly that the late Resolution of the House suspending the sale of confiscated Estates in its present Form is very injurious to the Institution, inasmuch as the grant of £1500 ℔ ann. made by a former Assembly by a solemn act of Legislature, is not satisfied farther than £600 ℔ ann., as by an Account ready if necessary to

be laid before the House will appear. I would also farther observe in Behalf of the Trustees that the present Resolution varies from the Bill published which reserves the confiscated Estates as a Fund to make up the Depreciation of Pay to the Officers & Soldiers. It is therefore the Wish of the Trustees that the Resolution may be amended so as to enable the Supreme Executive Council to finish the Sales as far as the Grant extends—& obviate the present Inconsistency of a Law & a Vote of the House being opposed to each other. The Zeal manifested by the Assembly of this State to promote Learning & Science leaves us no Room to doubt the Hon. House will accede to any reasonable Proposition for these Purposes.

I am Sir,

with much Esteem,

Your Obed. & Very Hble. Ser.,

JOS. REED,

Presid. of the Board of Trustees.

Market Street, Decem. 8, 1780.?

SEC'Y MATLACK TO MAJ. GENL. HOWE, 1781.

Sir,

The right of a Court Martial to compel the attendance of a witness in the present instance seems to depend on the Question—Is the city a Garrison town? If it is, the right is clear, otherwise very doubtful, and an action would probably lie against the party compelling. But this question need not be agitated, because the evidence can be had by other means. A justice of the peace will on application issue his summons, and, in case of refusal, compel attendance by the witness, and will give formal notice to the party charged to be present during the examination. I should think it will be most unexceptionable to give like notice to the Advocate General or his Deputy.

This mode of proceeding is founded on general principles of law, and is countenanced by an express resolution of Congress.

Mr. Fleeson is the *next* Justice, and will pay attention to your application.

I am Sir,

Your most obt. servt.,

T. M.

Decr. 10, 1781.

Directed,

Major Genl. Howe, present.

Pres. Moore to Assembly, 1781.

In Council,
Philada. Decr. 10, 1781.

Sir,

The inclosed letter from His Excellency John Hanson, Esqr., President of Congress, dated the 31st of Novr., 1781, and the resolves of Congress of November 23, 1781,* recommending to the States to enact laws for punishing infractions of the laws of nations, having been read in Council. I have the honor to transmit to you the originals and request that you will please to lay them before the General Assembly.

I have the honor to be
your most obedient servant.

Directed,

To Hnble. Fred. A. Muhlenberg, Esq., Speaker of General Assembly.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. in Council, 1781.

(Copy.)

Circular of Congress.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed herewith a Copy of an Act of Congress of the 23d instant respecting infractions of the laws of nations, and the erection of proper tribunals for punishing them.

Such is the importance of the objects recommended in that act, and so obvious is the necessity for some regulations respecting them, that I feel satisfied they will engage the immediate attention of your Excellency and the Legislature of your State.

I have the honor to be
with great respect, Sir,
Your Excellency's most
obedient & very humble servant,
JOHN HANSON, Presid't.

Philadelphia, 31 Nov'r, 1781.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 152.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

Nov'r 23d, 1781.

On a report of a Committee appointed to prepare a recommendation to the states to enact laws for punishing infractions of the laws of nations.

Resolved,

That it be recommended to the legislatures of the several states to provide expeditious, exemplary and adequate punishment,

First, for the violation of safe conduct, or passports, expressly granted under the authority of Congress to the subjects of a foreign power in time of war.

Secondly, for the commission of acts of hostility against such as are in amity, league or truce with the United State, or who are within the same under a general implied safe conduct.

Thirdly, for the infractions of the immunities of ambassadors and other public ministers authorised & received as such by the United States in Congress assembled; by animadverting on violence offered to their persons, houses, carriages and property under the limitations allowed by the usages of nations; and on disturbance given to the free exercise of their religion; by annulling all writs and processes at any time sued forth against an Ambassador or other public minister, or against their goods and chattels, or against their domestic servant, whereby his person may be arrested, and,

Fourthly, for infractions of treaties and conventions to which the United States are a party.

The preceeding being only those offences against the laws of nations which are most obvious, and public faith and safety requiring that punishment should be co-extensive with such crimes:

Resolved,

That it be farther recommended to the several states to erect a tribunal in each state, or to vest one already existing, with power to decide on offences against the law of nations not contained in the foregoing enumeration under convenient restrictions.

Resolved,

That it be farther recommended to authorise suits to be instituted for damages by the party injured, and for compensation to the United States for damages sustained by them from an injury done to a foreign power by a citizen.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Copy compared.

T. MATLACK, Sec'y.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Moore, 1781.

Lancaster, Decem^r 10th, 1781.

Sir,

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favour of ye 29th Ulto.

With respect to the Cartridge boxes forwarded from Philad^a—I wished your Excellency or Council could have seen them. I conceive it my daty to inform Council, that much the greater part of them are not worth the Carriage—I have had them inspected by some Gentlemen; their oppinion is, they are trash, & that nearly two-thirds of them must have long since been condemned & thrown aside. The Board of War, had they known the situation of them, I am well persuaded, would not have given an order for them. They might answer: were we driven to the utmost necessity in a fair & clear day—but by no means could they be intrusted one half hour in rain, as every Cartridge in them must be inevitably ruined. For my part, I must declare, should militia be ordered for a march, I shall never undertake to put them in their hands. Your Excellency & Council will take the matter into consideration, & if you shall think proper, to direct some measures to be taken to supply us with proper Cartridge boxes.

I have the Honor to be, most respectfully,

Your Excellency's most ob^t & very h. servt.,

AD^m HUBLEY, J. L^t L^r C^y.

The time of the present Militia Guard is nearly expired. I beg to have some directions respecting the relief—I beg leave to refer your Excell'y to my last, respecting the militia.

Directed,

(On public service.)—His Excellency William Moore, Esquire, Presid^t of Pennsya., Philada.

Fav^d ☞ Capt. Jo^s Hubley.

Return of Servants by R. R. Livingston, 1781.

Negro Men slaves—Negro Women slaves in the service of Mr Robert R. Livingston, Secretary of the United States for foreign Affairs—Philadelphia, Decr. 12th, 1781.

Sharp,	Judith,
Cato,	Mary,
George,	Grace,

One white Man servant, namely, Patrick Lemon.

ROB. R. LIVINGSTON.

Directed,—Col. Matlack.

Indorsed,—Read in Council, Dec. 22, 1781.

Col. Adam Hubley to Pres. Reed, 1781.

Lancaster, Decr 12th, 1781.

Sir,

I find myself much embarras'd by some difficulties arising on the leveying the Fines on the delinquents in the 4th, 5th & 6th Class's, ordered on a tour in September last. My officers under me, & myself, are threatened with prosecutions if we attempt to levy a full fine for a whole tour—alledging, that the militia were discharged at Newtown, Bucks County, without performing a whole Tour, and therefore think themselves liable to no more Time, than for the number of days the militia were out.—When I was in Philada. last, I foresaw the difficulties on the Subject—and if your Excellency remembers, waited on you & some other members then present, in the Council Chamber, to know their oppinion on the matter—I then received it verbally, and stood instructed (If I recollect rightly) that the matter had been fully tried in a Court of Justice, in Chester County, where it was determined that a whole fine should be levied—that your Excellency & the members of Council then present were of the same oppinion—That in Philada. the whole fines were levied—and that I should do the same in Lancaster County.—This would have been a full decision to regulate my Conduct by, and should not have troubled your Excellency or the Council farther about it, were I not apprized that it did not coincide with the oppinion of Mr William Henry, the President of Lancaster Court, who says that the Law does not warrant it, and that His Excellency the late President, yourself & other members of the Council to whom he spoke on the subject, had told him full fines could not be levied. Lawsuits in Courts of Justice, under such Ideas, are not easily defended. I may subject myself & my Officers to a great number of Law suits; therefore should be glad the Council would take up the matter, and give me such positive instructions as will decide weather the delinquents are to pay a full fine, or a fine only equal to the number of days the marching militia were out—upon which I shall proceed accordingly.

I shall only add, that in pursuance of the Council's former declaration, & before I was apprized of what Mr Henry says, I have issued my warrants for full fines; should the matter be thought different now, the earliest notice to me will be highly necessary.

I have the Honor to be your Excelly's
most obt & very huml. Servt.,
ADAM HUBLEY, J. L. L. Cty.

I beg your Excellency will have this matter decided with all possible speed.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, Prest of Penna., Phila.
Fav'd ✠ Colo. Clark.

SEC'Y MATLACK TO SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY, 1781.

In Council, Philada., Decr. 17, 1781.

Sir,

The enclosed letter from His Excellency the President of Congress, dated the 12th inst., covering several resolves of Congress of December 10, 1781, respecting the raising the quota of Troops of this state for the federal Army, and the resolve of Congress of December 11, 1781, requiring a return of the number of the white inhabitants of this State, was this day received, and, together with the said resolves, read in Council, and ordered to be laid before the General Assembly. I therefore transmit the same to you, and request that you will please to lay them before the house for their consideration.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your most obd^t servt.

The Hnble. F. A. Muhlenburg, Esq., Speaker of the General Assembly.

B. DOUGHERTY AND C. CESSNA TO V. P. POTTER, 1781.

Sir,

Considering the Agreement made by us, and entered on the Council Books, a Doubt has suggested on account of Carriage.

The Only place in our County fit for storing Provisions in, is the Town of Bedford, which is, in every Direction, a considerable Distance from such places as are capable of making the necessary Defence.

It is 55 Miles distant from the Lead Mine Gap, 40 from the Gap of Frankston, and also 40 from Conemaugh.

These are the Common passes thro' which the Enemy penetrates into the Country;

And sending Provisions to all or any of these Posts, will be attended with Expences, and which might be intirely out of our power to defray.

To neglect giving this necessary information to Council, would be in some Measure criminal in us; forasmuch as the want of such knowledge might lead into great Mistakes, by which expectations won'd take place, and, of course, disappointments ensue very interesting to the distressed Frontiers; for unless punctuality is observed, it will frustrate and render useless the salutary Measures adopted by Government for the Defence of the Frontiers;—We therefore pray the Sense of his Excellency and the Honorable Board of Council on this Subject.

We are, Sir, Your obedt. Hble, Servts.,
BERNARD DOUGHERTY,
CHARLES CESSNA.

December 17th, 1781.

Directed,—Honorble General Potter.

Pres. Moore to Brig. Gen. Wm. Irvine, 1781.

In Council, Philadelphia, Dec. 17, 1781.

Sir,

Your letter of the 3d* of the present month has been read in Council. The loss of Col. Lochry with his men, and the distressed state of the post under your command, and the country round it, gave us great pain. Yet we hope from your Vigilance and ability that every possible exertion will be made to protect the Inhabitants, as far as their exposed situation will admit of. It has been suggested to the General Assembly that the best and perhaps, cheapest means of protecting the frontiers, will be found in the invasion of the Indian country. How far this may be prudent and practicable remains yet to be decided upon. Perhaps the disposition of the people of Westmoreland County to emigrate into the Indian country may be diverted and applied to this end. Be this as it may, it will be certainly proper to endeavour to fill up your battalions with as many men as can be obtained in that county; for which purpose we shall send to you two hundred and fifty pounds to begin with, & request that you will, as opportunity offers, communicate your success in recruiting, and the prospect which lies before you. You may depend on our giving you the earliest information of what may be done here, respecting the frontiers.

With respect to the line between this state and Virginia, every measure, on our part, has been taken to have had a temporary line run the last summer; but it has failed of being effectual by some omissions of the Commissioners appointed on the part of that state; and it seems to be impracticable by the season, and perhaps, unnecessary, now, to push that measure, as preparations are making for running, in the Spring, a permanent line, founded upon astronomical observations.

We have long suspected that the representation of the state of things in Westmoreland has been coloured by party resentments, which we hope will subside, and that harmony obtained among the good people of that county, which is so very essential to their interest & safety. You will render the most acceptable service, at once to the county and to the state, by using your influence to effect so desirable a purpose, and the favourable representation you have made of their dispositions, affords a pleasing expectation that this may be in your power, and we have no doubt of your attention to an object so important to the command you are entrusted with, and so highly honorable to effect.

With great respect,

I am Sir, your most obedient servt.

To Brigadier Gen. Irvine, at Fort Pitt.

* See page 458.

Michael Huffnagle to Christopher Hayes, 1781.

Philadelphia, 20th December, 1781.

Sir,

I having Contracted with the Hon'ble Robert Morris, Esquire, Financier General for the supplying of the Post of Fort Pitt with provisions, I propose to supply the Militia & Ranging Company for Westmoreland County, the Ration to Consist of the same articles as for the Continental Troops, & to be paid for at the same Rate, which is eleven pence half penny, for every Ration in Gold or Silver, to be delivered at Hannas Town & Ligonier & twelve pence ℔ Rations at Rocks Blockhouse, that the Lieutenant or eldest Sub-Lieutenant of the County countersigning the Orders of the officers to be sufficient Vouchers for settlement, that the supream Executive Council will settle with me every three Months, that if any provisions shall be taken by the Enemy having an Escort, which is to be granted by the Lieutenant upon proper application of the Contractors, shall be paid for as Rations issued, if any Magazine shall be taken to be paid for in like manner, the Contractors having proper Vouchers to produce for such quantity so taken, that the supream executive Council are to advance me one hundred pounds in Gold or Silver.

I shall be oblidg'd to you to mention these proposals to Council as it will be easier for me to supply them than any other person, my having the Contract for the Continental Troops.

your most obt. Hble. Servt.,

MICH. HUFFNAGLE.

Directed,

The Hon'ble Christopher Hays, Esqr.

Criminals in the Gaol of Philadelphia, 1781.

Criminals Remaining in the Gaol of the City and County of Philadelphia agreeable To their Sentence.

Bryan Doran,	Charged, August 10th, 1781, with Treasonable practices against the States, Try'd at Septr Court of Oyer and terminer and General goal Delivery Convicted on one bill, Sentenced to Stand in the pillery one hour, To pay a fine of Ten pounds each to this Commonwealth, To be imprisoned two months, To pay cost of two Bills of indictment, To Stand Committed till the Sentance is Complied with.
Alexander McDonald,	
Cornelius Elderton,	
and	
Alexander Stewart,	

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 157, 158.

	The above Stewart is a prisoner of War Taken at the Cowpens & Deserted from Lancaster and entered into the above plott of raising on the Crew of Captn. Hall's Sloop and taken her to New York. Costs above £22 each.
Simon Burns,	Convicted of Stealing 2 yds. of Black Taffity and found Guilty, To be Whipt, 15 Lashes pay a fine to the Common-Wealth of £3, pay Cost of prosecution and Stand commited till the Sentance be Complied with. (The Goods was Restored.)
Thomas Brown,	Commited for not giving a Satisfactory account of himself otherwise then he Diserted from the Cyprus Man of War in our Bay when Sent on Shore with the Boat, he is a Sailer.
Reubin Parker,	Tried at Last Court of Oyer and terminer in Company with Green, Crowder & Others for a Burglary and acquited, Confessed on his trial to be a Diserter from the American Army Nine times, he has been tried at a Court martial, proceedings not known, he is fit for the Sea Service and No other.
Henry McKeaver,	Commited for breaking into the Slaughter house of Thomas Renshaw, perhaps the proof may not be Strong enough To Convict him, if Council would Send him away they would ease the Gaol of the most Dangerous Villain within the walls, for Certain it is he never ought to be at Liberty within the City.

JOHN REYNOLDS, Gaoler.

Decr. 17th, 1781.

Supplies for Pennsylvania Prisoners at New York, 1781.

On consideration of the Case of the Marine Prisoners in New York, citizens of this State, it appears that there are at least 151 persons now on board the Prison ship & Hospital ship at New York, of which number more than one third are in want of cloathing—suppose 60: it will then be necessary to purchase the following articles of cloathing—vizt.

100 Woolen Caps, which will cost about	6s	8d,		33	6	8
60 coarse Jacoats, . .	34s			102		
60 pair of Trowsers, . .	30s			90		
60 pair of coarse stockings, .	7	6		22	10	
100 pair of shoes, . .	8			40		
100 shirts, . . .	15			75		
60 Blankets, . . .						
It would be proper to charter a small Schooner or shallop to go round to New York with 800 bushels of Turnips & Potatoes, & 50 barrels of flour, . . for which a passport may probably be obtained.						
The Expence of chartering such a Vessell, ...						

These articles should be deposited in the hands of some proper person in New York, to be delivered out to the prisoners weekly or twice a week. The Flour to be baked into bread in New York and allowance of about four pounds ⅌ man per week be delivered.

It will be necessary to lodge the sum of in the hands of some person in New York for the supply of necessaries for the unhappy persons who are on board the Hospital ship—by this measure many lives may be saved.

Should it be found impracticable to send a vessell with the articles proposed, the sum of should be sent with the clothing and deposited in the hands of to procure such supplies of provisions as are absolutely necessary to make life supportable.

An Ordinance to incorporate the Bank of North America, 1781.

An Ordinance to incorporate the Subscribers to the Bank of North America.

Whereas—Congress on the twenty sixth Day of May last did from a conviction of the support which the finances of the United States would receive from the establishment of a national Bank, approve a plan for such an institution submitted to their consideration by Robert Morris, Esquire, and now ledged among the Archives of Congress, and did engage to promote the same by the most effectual means; And Whereas the Subscription thereto is now filled from an expectation of a Charter of incorporation from Congress, the Directors and President are chosen, and application hath been made to Congress, by the said President & Directors for an Act of incorporation; And Whereas the exigencies of the United States render it indispensibly necessary that such an Act be immediately passed.

Be it therefore Ordained, and it is hereby ordained by the United States in Congress Assembled, that those who are and those who

shall become Subscribers to the said Bank, be and for ever after shall be a Corporation and Body politic to all Intents and Purposes, by the Name and Stile of the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of North America.

And be it further ordained, that the said Corporation, are hereby declared and made eligible and capable in Law to have, purchase, receive, possess, enjoy and retain Lands, Rents, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods, Chattels and effects of what kind, nature, or Quality soever to the Amount of Ten Millions of Spanish Silver Milled Dollars and no more, and also to sell, grant, demise, alien, or dispose of the same Lands, Rents, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods, Chattels and Effects.

And be it further ordained, that the said Corporation be, and shall be for ever hereafter, able and capable in Law, to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended in Courts of Record or any other place whatsoever, and to do and execute all and singular other Matters and Things that to them shall or may appertain to do.

And be it further ordained, that for the well governing of the said Corporation and the ordering of their Affairs, they shall have such Officers as they shall hereafter direct or appoint, provided nevertheless that twelve Directors, one of whom shall be the President of the Corporation, be of the number of their Officers.

And be it further ordained, that Thomas Willing be the present President, and that the said Thomas Willing and Thos. Fitzsimmons, John Maxwell Nesbitt, James Willson, Henry Hill, Samuel Osgood, Cadwallader Morris, Andrew Caldwell, Samuel Inglis, Saml. Meredith, William Bingham, Timothy Matlack, be the present Directors of the said Corporation, and shall so continue until another President and other Directors shall be chosen according to the Laws and Regulations of the said Corporation.

And be it further ordained, that the President and Directors of the said Corporation shall be capable of exercising such power for the well governing and ordering of the Affairs of the said Corporation, and of holding such occasional Meetings for that purpose as shall be described, fixed and determined by the Laws, Regulations and ordinances of the said Corporation.

And be it further ordained, that the said Corporation may make, ordain, establish and put in execution such Laws, Ordinances and Regulations as shall seem necessary and convenient to the government of the said Corporation.

Provided always that nothing herein before contained shall be construed to authorise the said Corporation to exercise any powers in any of the United States repugnant to the Laws or Constitution of such State.

And be it further ordained that the said Corporation shall have full power and authority to make, have and use a common Seal

with such Device and Inscription as they shall think proper, and the same to break, alter and renew at their pleasure.

And be it further ordained, that this Ordinance shall be construed and taken most favourably and beneficially for the said Corporation.

Done by the United States in Congress Assembled the thirty first Day of December, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty One, and in the sixth year of our Independence.

JOHN HANSON, Presid[t].

Attest, CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

By the United States in Congress Assembled.

December 31st, 1781.

Resolved,

That it be recommended to the Legislature of each State to pass such Laws as they may judge necessary for giving the foregoing Ordinance its full Operation agreeably to the true Interest and meaning thereof, and according to the recommendations contained in the Resolutions of the 26th Day of May last.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Examination of James Lewis, 1781.

James Lewis examined Decr. 31. 1781.

Been some time in the service of the enemy.—Entered into the regt. of Royal Forester.—A good many in it.—About 150 or 160 in it when he left New York.—He considered England as his country.—Was taken with Col. Conolly as Conolly servt.—Conolly was going down to an acquaintance, he was sick.—Place 12 or 13 miles from York town.—Not armed—was taken by 3 militia men.—came with Connolly to Philada.—Heard Dr. Griffies tell Connely to go on to Philad.—Gave no parole in Virginia—was detained at N. Castle in Virginia by sickness.—Was Mr. Ewings at the Ferry six days—took Letters to Ervine in seventh street—an old grey headed man up an alley on the North side of Market street—a lusty man—it was about money for a bill of exchange which Col. Connelly sold—carried a letter to Mr. McLaughlan—a lame man in both his knees—down town across the new bridge—but pointing up town said that way—his feet were in a tub and he was sitting in his bed side—(perhaps Geo. Crogban)—His regimental cloathis in town—The brown coat he had on belonged to him, he had it made in N. York, That he had been three years in the Continental army.

* See Col. Rec. Vol. XIII., p. 161.

Robert Morris to President Moore, 1782.

Office of Finance 3rd January 1782.

Sir,

I enclose the Copy of a Letter written this day to the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maryland. It is unnecessary to say any thing on the subject to your Excellency as you will see and feel with me the urgency of the Occasion.

It gives me great pain to make such a Representation and especially as those States deserve applause for their former Exertions.

I have the honor to be,
with very great Respect Sir,
your Excellencys most obedient & humble servant,
ROBT. MORRIS.

His Excellency The President of the state of Pennsylvania

Robert Morris to Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Maryland, 1782.

Office of Finance January 3d, 1782.

Sir,

Although it is now eleven months since Congress recommended an Impost of five per Cent on Goods imported and on prizes and on prize Goods, the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Maryland have not yet complied with the recommendation.

I will not repeat the arguments to induce a Compliance which are contained either in my Letter of the twenty-seventh of July or elsewhere. That is unnecessary. The object of this Letter is to make a representation which can no longer be delayed consistently with the Duties I owe either to myself or to my Country and altho' it is principally designed for those three States just mentioned, yet I transmit it to the other states (in a Letter of which the Copy is enclosed) because all ought to know what is equally interesting to all.

Convinced that the Impost recommended was not sufficent, I had devised some additional Funds for Payment of our Debts and support of our Credit. These I should have submitted to the Consideration of Congress had these States complied with their former recommendations.

In a circular Letter dated the nineteenth of October last, I had the Honor to mention an order prohibiting Loan Officers from issuing Certificates in Payment of Interest, together with the reasons for which it was made, That order has produced much Clamor among the public Creditors, This I expect and I still expect that it will occasion much more.

The public Debt is considerable, and the public Credit must be lost, if the Interest of it be not provided, for Congress have done their Duty in requesting revenue, and I have done mine in soliciting a Compliance with their request. It only remains for me to bear Testimony against those who oppose that Compliance and to declare that they and they only must be responsible for the Consequences, They are answerable to the other States, to their fellow Citizens, to the public Creditors and to the whole world.

I must speak plainly on this subject, I must point out from Time to Time the reason of those Things which have produced murmurs and Complaints against the representative Body of America. I must direct those who suffer, to those who occasion their sufferings, and those who are injured, to those who have done them wrong. Let me then once more entreat that this great object be seriously considered. Let me repeat that the Hope of our Enemy is in the Derangement of our Finances, and let me add that when revenue is given that Hope must cease. He therefore who opposes the Grant of such revenue not only opposes himself to the Dictates of Justice, but he labours to continue the war and of Consequence to shed more Blood, to produce more Devastation, and to extend and prolong the miseries of mankind.

Addressed To the Governors of the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, & Maryland.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Circular,

Philadelphia 6th, Jan. 1782.

Sir,

Your Excelleney will receive inclosed herewith a Copy of an act of Congress of the 2d instant recommending to the Legislature of each State to pass acts, to be in force during the continuance of the present War, for the Seizure & condemnation of British manufactures found on Land within their respective Jurisdiction, in certain Cases, which I hope will meet with proper respect & attention.

I have the honor to be,

with great respect Sir, your Excellencys,

Obedt. & very humb. Servant,

JOHN HANSON Presidt.

His Excellency The President of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed,

Read in Council and ordered to be laid before the Genl. Assembly.

Resolution of Congress, 1782.

By The United States in Congress assembled,

January 2d, 1782.

To render more effectuall the provision, contained in the "Ordinance, ascertaining what captures on water shall be lawfull," for the capture and condemnation of goods, wares and merchandizes of the growth, produce or manufacture of Great Britain, or the territories depending thereon in certain cases.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the legislature of of each State, to pass acts to be in force during the continuance of the present war, for the seizure and condemnation of all goods wares and merchandizes of the growth, produce or manufacture of Great Britain, or of any territory depending thereon, which shall be found on land within their respective jurisdictions, unless the same shall have been imported before the first day of March, 1782, or shall have been captured from the enemy.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Secy.

William Henry to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Lancaster, January 7, 1782.

Sir,

Colonel Antil has return'd Seventy-Seven Men of his Regiment, (exclusive of Six killed before York, in Virginia,) belonging to the Pennsylvania Line, who have not received the Gratuity allowed by a Resolution of Assembly of the 8th March, 1781. Gen. Haxen has certified to me that the said Return is true, &c. The people insisted on having the Nine pounds State Money paid in Specie, as the State Money was a legal Tender when the Gratuity was given, and at present was not. I refused payment at that Rate, and left the Matter to be determined by Council, alledging that the Money was better now than at the Time the Line received the Gratuity, &c. They were extremely clamorous and pressing for the Money, alledging that the New England Men of their Reg. had received a Gratuity of 24 Specie Dollars each; several of them agreed at last to receive the Exchange (that is one for Three here) in Lieu of the Nine pounds State Money, which I agreed to and have paid them at that Rate; but still the Matter is to be determined by Council, whether they are to have the State Money paid in Specie or not. I have given them very little Encouragement, telling them that if theirs was to be made good, the remainder of the Line would expect the same would be done for them, &c.

You will be pleased to determine this affair as soon and explicit as possible. I have paid the Widow of one of the Men killed before York, in Virginia, as her Husband was entitled to it in his Life Time. Col. Antil having certified that she was the Wife of the deceased. There are a Number of State Certificates for the Depreciation of the Soldiers Pay in the Hands of the Men here, would it not be the Interest of the Government to order them to be purchased? They are sold for Two Shillings and Six pence in the pound, to Shopkeepers, &c. I have paid off Mr. Rittenhouses' Orders, and should be glad he would draw for any Money he may want in these parts, as there are but few good Opportunities of Sending Dollars (which is the principal part of the Money which comes in for the Taxes) to Philadelphia. The Gold I can send conveniently.

I am, Sir, Your very obedient,
& humble Servant,
WILLIAM HENRY.

Directed,

His Expellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of Council, Philadelphia.

Robert Morris to Pres. Moore—Bank N. A., 1782.

(Circular)

Office of Finance, January 8th, 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith an ordinance passed by the United States in Congress assembled the thirty first day of December 1781, incorporating the Subscribers to the Bank of North America,* together with sundry resolutions, recommending to the several States, to pass such Laws as they may judge necessary for giving the said ordinance its full operation. The resolutions of the 26th May last,† speak so clearly to the points necessary to be established by those Laws, that I need not enlarge on them. Should any thing more be found necessary upon experience the President and Directors will no doubt make suitable applications to Congress, or to the States respectively as the case may require. It affords me great satisfaction to inform your Excellency, that this Bank commenced its operations yesterday, and I am confident that with proper management it will answer the most sanguine expectations of those, who befriend the Institution. It will facilitate the management of the Finances of the United States. The several States may when their respective necessities require, and the abilities of the Bank will permit, derive

* See page 471. † See page 172.

occasional advantage and accomodations from it. It will afford to the individuals of all the States, a medium for their intercourse with each other, and for the payment of Taxes, more convenient than the precious metals, and equally safe. It will have a tendency to encrease both the internal and external Commerce of North America, and undoubtedly will be infinitely useful to all the Traders of every State in the union, provided as I have already said it is conducted on the principles of equity, justice, prudence and œconomy. The present Directors bear Characters, that cannot fail to inspire confidence and as the Corporation is amenable to the Laws, power can neither sanctify any improper Conduct, nor protect the guilty. Under a full conviction of these things I flatter myself that I shall stand excused for recommending in the strongest manner, this well-meant plan to all the encouragement and protection which your State can give consistently with Wisdom and Justice.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect

Your Excellency's

most obedient &

most h'ble Serv't.

ROB'T MORRIS.

Directed,

His Excellency, The President of the State of Pennsilvania.

Comm'rs of Taxes of Philad'a to Pres. Moore, 1782.

To His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President and the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen:

When we was about to Levy the fines on delinquent Classes, we had no doubt but the Legislature intended that the sum of twenty Pounds should be paid from every delinquent Class into the Treasury of this State, we therefore added so much on the whole as we judged sufficient to defray necessary Expences, and to make up for allowances that must unavoidably be made (in a Tax laid upon a former Assessment) for the removal of many persons and alteration of circumstances; This we supposed justifiable by compairing the third Section of the Act imposing the fines above mentioned, and the last Section of the act for effecting supplies with the sixth section of the act for raising Supplies for the year 1779. A number of the Inhabitants, especially from some of the Townships have refused payment of any more than their proportion of the twenty Pounds, and some of them that have call'd on us say, any addition to that Sum is a Tax on the inhabitants levied without the authority of Law; they also say that in

Chester County, the Commissioners only levy twenty Pounds on each delinquent Class. We have consulted the State Attorney, who is of opinion that the expences ought to be added, and that exclusive thereof, twenty Pounds should be paid into the Treasury.

We should be very much obliged to Council for their Advice and Direction in this matter, as perhaps that alone will satisfy those who decline paying the above fine, and will always be attended to by this Board. As the Class Duplicates are all sent out, and many persons have paid their proportions as charged in the Duplicates an alteration now would thro that business into great confusion, but should that be the case, we have no doubt the Wisdom of your Honourable Board will point out a proper mode of relief.

We are, Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient, and
very Humble Servants.
GUNNING BEDFORD,
JOHN BAKER.

Philad^a, Jany 11th, 1782.

Directed,
His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr, President, &c. &c. &c.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Moore, 1782.

(Circular.)
Philadelphia, 11 Jan., 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor to inclose your Excellency an Ordinance of Congress, dated the 8th instant, for amending the Ordinance ascertaining what Captures on Water shall be lawful; and am, with great respect,

Sir, your Excellency's obedt.
& very humble Servt.,
JOHN HANSON, President.

Directed,
His Excellency, The President of Pennsylvania.

An Ordinance, 1782.*

An Ordinance, for amending the Ordinance, ascertaining what Captures on Water shall be lawful.

Whereas there hath been great variance in the decisions of several Maritime courts within the United States, concerning the pretensions of vessels claiming a share of prizes, as being in sight at the time of capture; some having adjudged that the mere circumstance

* From printed handbill.

of being in sight was a sufficient foundation of title, while others have required proof of a more active influence: And Whereas this inconvenience hath arisen from the want of an uniform rule of determination in such cases:

Be it therefore ordained, by the United States in Congress assembled, that no share of any prize shall be adjudged to a vessel being in sight at the time of capture, unless the said vessel shall have been able at the time when the captured vessel struck, to throw a shot as far as the space between herself and the captured vessel; and that every vessel coming in aid of the captors, which shall have been able at the time when the captured vessel struck, to throw a shot as aforesaid, and shall have been duly authorised to make captures, shall be intitled to share according to the number of her men, and the weight of her metal; provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to effect any agreement, which shall have been previously made between vessels cruising in consort.

And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, that whensoever an armed vessel belonging to, and commissioned by the enemy, shall be captured by any armed vessel belonging to the United States, and duly authorised to make captures, the net proceeds of the sales of the captured vessel, and of her rigging, tackle, apparel and furniture, shall be adjudged to the captors, and where a cargo shall be on board of such captured vessel, one moiety of the net proceeds of such cargo shall be adjudged to the United States, and the other moiety to the captors.

And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, that upon the capture of any vessel belonging to the enemy, and laden with masts or spars, by an armed vessel belonging to the United States, and duly authorised to make captures, the net proceeds of the sales of such captured vessel and her cargo shall be adjudged to the captors.

This ordinance shall take effect, and be in force from and after the last day of February next.

Done by the United States in Congress Assembled, the eighth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two, and in the sixth year of our independence.

JOHN HANSON, President.

Attest, Charles Thomson, Secretary.

T. Prudden and A. Caldwell to Pres. Moore. 1782.

To his Excellency the Governour & Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The subscribers understanding that some Difficulties had arisen to the prejudice of their first application for Depreciation, Again beg the attention of your Honours to their situation. Being mostly

stationed in this City, and having no resource for support but the public allowance, their nominal pay when money had Depreciated to 40,50 & 60, for one was not sufficient to procure any thing towards their maintainance, They must therefore have left the service, had not the apothecary Genl. rec^d Directions to afford some further allowance on acc^t, the whole of which did not amount to one tenth of their pay & they Humbly trust that as they never by any act gave up their right to the pay granted them by the ordinance of Congress & no act of their Superior officers could deprive them of it, The Hon'ble Council will extend to them the Benefits of the Acts of Assembly for making up the depreciation to persons in Service.

With the Highest regard & esteem we beg leave to subscribe ourselves your Honours most obedient Hble. Servants,

THOS. PRUDDEN,
ANDREW CALDWELL.

Philadelphia, Jany 12th, 1782.

PRES. MOORE TO ROBERT MORRIS, 1782.

In Council,
Philadelphia, January 16th, 1782.

Sir,

I received this morning your several letters of the third and eighth Instant* with the several inclosures, shall lay them before the General Assembly at their next meeting, and am

Your most obedient and very humble servant.

Directed

Hon'ble Robert Morris, Esqr, superintendent of finance, Present.

GEN. WASHINGTON TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Philadelphia, 22 Jan^y, 1782.
(Circular,)

Sir,

Although it may be somewhat out of my province, to address your Excellency on a subject not immediately of a military nature, yet I consider it so nearly connected with, and so essential to the operations under my directions, that I flatter myself my interference will not be deemed impertinent.

Upon applying to the superintendent of Finance to know how far I might depend upon him for the pay, Feeding and Clothing the army, for the Current year, and for the sums necessary to put it and keep it in motion, he very candidly laid open to me the state of our moneyed affairs, and convinced me, that although the assist-

*See pages 474, 475.

tances we had derived from abroad were considerable, yet they would be by no means adequate to our expences, He informed me further, that to make up this deficiency, the States had been called upon by Congress for Eight millions of Dollars for the service of the year 1782, and showed me the Copy of a circular letter from himself to the several Legislatures in which he had so fully and clearly pointed out the necessity of a compliance with the requisition that it is needless for me to say more on that head than that I entirely concur with him in opinion so far as he has gone into the matter. But there are other reasons which could not be so well known to him as they are to me, as having come immediately under my observation, and which therefore I shall take the liberty to mention.

Your Excellency cannot but remember the ferment into which the whole army was thrown twelve months ago, for want of pay and a regular supply of Cloathing and provisions and with how much difficulty they were brought into temper by a partial supply of the two first and a promise of more regular supplies of all in future. Those promises the Soldiery now begin to claim and altho' we shall be able to satisfy them tolerably in respect to Cloathing and perfectly in regard to provision (if the Financier is enabled to comply with his Contracts) yet there is no prospect of obtaining pay untill part of the money required of the States can be brought into the public treasury. You cannot conceive the uneaseness which arises from the total want of so essential an article as money, and the real difficulties in which the officers in particular are involved on that account. The favourable aspect of our affairs and the hopes that matters are in a train to afford them relief contributed to keep them quiet, but I cannot answer for the effects of a disappointment.

Enabling the Financier to comply with his Contracts is a matter of the utmost consequence the very existence of the army depends upon it. Should he fail in his payments the Contracts cease, and there is no alternative left but to disband or live upon the seizure of neighbouring property. The saving to the public by feeding an army by contract, is too well known to need any illustration, and that alone ought to be a sufficient inducement to the States to find the means of adhereing to it.

It will perhaps be urged that the sum called for is immense and beyond the ability of the Country to pay. There is one plain answer to that objection, should it be made—it is, that if the War is carried on a certain expence must be incurred, and that such expence must be drawn from the people, either by a partial, cruel and, I may say, illegal seizure of that property which lays most convenient to the army or by a regular and equitable Tax in money or specific articles.

Money if it can be procured, is to be preferred because it is neither liable to waste nor is it expensive in the mode of collection or transportation. Whereas, I think I may venture to say, that a great proportion of the specific articles have been wasted, after the people have furnished them, and that the transportation alone, of what have

reached the army has in numberless instances cost more than the value of the articles themselves.

To bring this War to a speedy and happy conclusion, must be the fervent wish of every lover of his Country, and sure I am that no means are so likely to effect these, as vigorous preparations for another Campaign. Whether then we consult our true interest, substantial œconomy, or sound policy, we shall find that relaxation and langour are, of all things, to be avoided. Conduct of that kind on our part, will produce fresh hopes and new exertions on that of the Enemy; whereby, the War, which has already held beyond the general expectation, may be protracted to such a length, that the people, groaning under the burden of it and despairing of success, may think any change, a change for the better.

I will close with a request that your Excellency will be good enough to take the first opportunity of laying these my sentiments before the Legislature of your State. From the attention they have ever been pleased to pay to any former requisitions or representations of mine, I am encouraged to hope that the present, which is equally important with any I have ever made, will meet with a favorable reception.

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect,
your Excellency's
most Ob^t and H'ble Servt,
G^o WASHINGTON.

Directed,
His Excellency, William Moore, Esq.

SECRETARY AT WAR TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

War Office, January 29th, 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor to inclose your Excellency a copy of a resolution of Congress of the 18th December last, respecting the recruits to be raised by the several States for filling up their quotas against the ensuing Campaign.

I have the honor to be
with the highest respect,
your Excellency's
most obd^t serv^t,
M. CLARKSON,
Assist^t to the Sec'y at War.

Directed,
(Public Service.)
His Excellency, the President of the State of Pennsylvania.
War office.

RESOLUTION REFERRED TO.

By the United States in Congress assembled,

Dec'r 18th, 1781.

Resolved,

That it be recommended to the Legislature of each State to appoint one or more places at which the recruits thereof shall rendezvous, to supply such recruits with provisions from the time of their being mustered until they shall join the army, and to give notice of the place or places so appointed to the Commander in Chief or the Commanding Officer of the Southern Department, who upon receiving such notice will send to each place of rendezvous a judicious faithful officer, whose duty it shall be to muster the recruits and to forward them to the places of their destination, to keep a size roll of all the men he shall muster, and to give a copy thereof to the Officer Commanding the recruits sent forward as aforesaid, to transmit weekly a copy of the roll to the Executive of the State for which the recruits are mustered, and upon mustering a recruit to certify to the person producing him, the Class, Town and County for which he was engaged to serve, which certificate shall be full evidence that an able bodied man has been mustered and received.

December 19th, 1781.

Resolved, That in case the Superintendant of Finance shall find it convenient and proper to provide by Contract for supplying the Troops at and from the places of rendezvous untill they join the army, the States may be relieved from that duty.

Extract from the minutes,

(Copy.) CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'y.

Indorsed.—Read in Council, and ordered to be laid before the General Assembly.

JAMES MARSHAL TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Washington County, 4th Feb'ry, 1782.

Sir,

By this Opportunity have made return of the Officers of this County,* altho the whole is not yet Commissioned, as will appear by the return Inclosed, the officers and privates of the Seventh Company in the first Battalion Refuse becoming subjects of this State, the greatest part of the other Officers Elected and not yet Commissioned, objects against taking the Oath of allegiance untill the Line is run: this Difficulty I hope Council will Cause to be removed as soon as possible. The field Officers of the first Battalion were not Elected by ballot, as the Law directs, on account of a Large Mob that prevented those who were disposed to Comply with

* Not found with this.

the law, of doing it in that manner, altho they were on the Day appointed for Election, Elected Verbally by a great Majority, and therefore are Commissioned.

I have the pleasure of Informing your Excellency that I have been fully able to Comply with your Order in Calling forth the Militia agreeable to Law on Genl Irvine's Requisition; the only Difficulty we are under at present is the want of provision for the Militia when in actual service, the Contractors not being able to purchase more than is Necessary for the Regular Troops, no doubt this Difficulty will also be removed in due time.

I have the Honour to be with verry great
Respect and Esteem, your Excellency's
most obedient and verry Humble servant,
JAMES MARSHAL,
L. W. C.

Directed,
On public service.
His Excellency, President Moore, Philadelphia.

Pres. Moore to Gen Washington, 1782.

In Council, Phlad^a, Feb'y 5, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of twenty second ult.* has been read in Council, and agreeably to your request shall, without delay, be laid before the General Assembly, which stands adjourned to Monday next. During their last sitting they had under consideration a bill for raising the supplies called for by Congress for the present year, and altho' the sum is indeed great, the cheerfulness with which that measure was entered upon leaves no room to doubt of a most vigorous exertion to comply with the demand.

The observations you have been pleased to make and the reasoning thereupon are so important and interesting, that they cannot fail of having great weight and influence. I beg you to believe that the Council consider them as new proofs of your attention to the general interest of America, and that the measures you recommend shall have the fullest support from the Council.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect,
your Excellency's
most obedient
humble servant,

Directed,
His Excellency, George Washington, Esqr, General, &c.

* See page 481.

Gen. Washington to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philadelphia, Feb'y 8, 1782.

Sir,

Upon an application of Capt. Van Heer,* Commanding the Troop of Marechaussé, for Money to recruit his Troop, the Superintendant of Finance was of opinion, that as he recruited his men in this State, and as they would consequently be placed to the Credit of the State, the Sums necessary for recruiting should be furnished by them. Should your Excellency agree in this opinion, Capt. Van Heer will take your directions.

It has been thought that Men for the Cavalry might be procured on better terms than for the Infantry; Col. Armand has accordingly undertaken to recruit his Corps at thirty-two Dollars ⅌ man, and I think it equally probable, that Capt Van Heer will be able to recruit his Troop on the same Terms.

Capt. Van Heer will furnish your Excellency with the returns of his Corps, & give you any information respecting it which you may desire.

I have the honor to be,

with great regard, Sir,

Your Excellency's most Obed^t hum. Servt,

G. WASHINGTON.

Directed,

His Excellency The President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Moore to Gen. Washington, 1782.

In Council,

Philad^a, Feb'y 9th, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of yesterday, respecting the Troop of Marechaussé, has been read in Council, who are of opinion, that it will not be proper for the State of Pennsylvania to open an account with captain Van Heer by advancing money to him for recruiting; but, should any of the men enlisted by the State appear to be proper for that corps, they may be assigned to it, if your Excellency think it proper. The Council are the more confirmed in this sentiment, as Capt. Van Heer has made many applications, both to the Council and General Assembly, claiming right to be considered as part of the line of Pennsylvania, which have uniformly been refused, both, by the Council & Assembly, for reasons which appeared to them to be obvious and conclusive on that head.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII, p. 211.

Should any directions necessary on this subject be given to Col. Hampton, who superintends the recruiting service of this state, upon an intimation from your Excellency of their nature & tendency, they shall be immediately given to him.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest regard,

Your Excellency's most obedt humble servt.

ROBERT MORRIS TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Office of Finance, February 9th, 1782.

Sir,

I have the Pleasure to inform your Excellency, that I this Day received what remained due on the last Warrant granted to me on the Treasurer of this State. It is now a long time since I applied to Colr Morgan for an accurate account of the Specifick Supplies, which this State had furnished on the Requisitions of Congress, but I have not yet been able to obtain it. I must therefore request your Excellency, and the honorable Council, will direct it to be made out, that I may add to it those which I have furnished, and lay a State of the matter before the Assembly. In the Interim, as considerable Supplies must still be due, I have to request from your Excellency a further Warrant on the Treasury.

I have the Honor to be,

with great Respect, Sir,

your most obedient and humble Servant.

ROBt MORRIS.

His Excellency the President of Pennsylvania.

LIEUT COL. ED. CARRINGTON TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Philadelphia, Feb. 12, 1782.

Sir,

Previous to the resolutions of Congress in May last, for making promotions in the Corps of Artillery & Horse regimental, to the Commanding Officers of Regiments, a Vacancy had happened in the fourth of Artillery, by the resignation of Col. Proctor, which, agreeable to the principles established & practiced on, 'till the above resolutions, I was held to succeed to by right of seniority. General Washington, accordingly, did me the Honor to make a return to the War Office, with a request that my Commission might issue. The Commission being made out, was detained in the Office. Upon enquiry for the reasons of such detention, I am told that it is occasioned by some Objections on the part of the Executive of Pennsylvania. This is an impediment which never before happened in

the promotions repeatedly made in the Artillery & Cavalry on the same principle; I am therefore at a loss for the reasons which have in this instance governed it.

I do myself the Honor to address your Excellency, & shall be much Obliged by such information as will enable me on the subject to know on what ground the Affair is now resting.—Your Excellency will be pleased to excuse the liberty I have taken in troubling you on this Occasion, as the Honorary prospects depending on this circumstance are of great consequence to me, and merit every possible attention to secure them.

I have the honor to be,

with the most perfect respect,

Your Excellencies most

Ob^t Humb^l Servt,

ED. CARRINGTON,

Lt. Col. Art.

His Excellency President Moore.

Robert Morris to Pres. Moore, 1782.

(Circular.)

Office of Finance, February 13, 1782.

Sir,

In the circular Letter which I did myself the Honor to transmit, on the nineteenth Day of October last, I stated our Situation as clearly and as explicitly as I could, so that you might be in Capacity to form a solid Judgement as to what would be proper. I am now to inform you, that the most recent and authentic Information from Europe contains the reiterated Determination on the part of France to grant us no farther pecuniary aid. Spain appears to have neither the Inclination nor the ability to afford any, and in Holland it can only be obtained from Individuals, who will always require Security and of Consequence will not lend to the United States, who as you well know have no Security to give. The want of proper Funds has so reduced domestic Credit, that we can draw no resources from thence, and untill domestic Credit is established foreign Credit cannot exist, for it is absurd to expect that Foreigners will confide in a Government which has not the Confidence of its own Citizens. It is hardly possible to describe the Consequences which have followed on a loss of Credit. We have seen the People diffident, jealous and unhappy, nor have they yet recovered, even where the removal of undue restrictions has given them Time to breathe from that Load of oppression. But the public are if possible in a still worse Situation. No persons will trust the public, from a deep apprehension of ruin if they should; and consequently our operations must be bounded by the Taxes

which can be collected, while at the same time we must contend for our very Existence as a free Country, as an Expence which we cannot limit; because we cannot limit the Efforts made against us. Whenever proper methods shall have been taken to restore Credit, the Benefits arising from it will be as evident to all, as the want is now to those who are entrusted with the administration. Our Expence at this moment is greater than it ought to be, the less than it was. I cannot retrench, because I have not sufficient means in my Power, and have not to this moment any certain reliance on sufficient aid from the several States.

I am much inclined to believe that Individuals in the several Legislatures are unacquainted with the real State of affairs, or flatter themselves that they are better than they really are, even after Information. If Gentlemen would seriously consider the Situation of the public Servants, they would at least not suspect them of describing our Dangers as greater than they are. They could not for Instance suppose that I would give a high colouring to the Disorders of our Finances, because they must see that on the contrary, I should derive a degree of Credit from the general Belief that such Disorders do not exist. And when I declare my apprehensions, I injure so far my own operations. My reason for describing our Situation in its true Light is, that the States may be excited to grant us relief. I might by an appearance of wealth extend my operations for a little while, but in the End they would fail, and how we should be then extricated no man can tell. At present I must bear the Evils which result from the want of resources, and limit my views accordingly, but it would be madness to inculcate an opinion that Things are worse than they are, because then I could not derive the full Benefit of those resources which we have. You must therefore be convinced that I give you no exagerated account, and I trust Sir, that your Legislature will give due weight to assertions which they have every reason to believe, and which if neglected they will be convinced of by a melancholy and perhaps fatal Experience.

Many people flatter themselves with the Hope of Peace, but on what is it founded? Has the Enemy given the slighest Evidence of a Desire for it? Instead of suing for peace, they talk only of war, they prepare only for war, and when they might have got rid of one Enemy by a word, they disdained it.—Altho' Holland offered a seperate peace England refused to accept it, nor have we yet heard that she has agreed even to negotiate for, much less to conclude a general peace. She enjoys full Credit and therefore she *can* carry on the war, and the object of it on her part is so great that therefore she *will* carry on the war. Hitherto she has carried it on unsupported. Years have elapsed since it was pretended that she could not find resources for another Campaign, and yet Campaigns have succeeded each other with increasing Expence, and are still like to go on. With a Credit like hers there can be no want of the means, and therefore we have no reason to expect that she will be deprived

of them while that Credit exists. How soon she may find associates or how soon we may loose them no man can say. While the mutability of all human affairs continues to be the Theme of common and daily observation, no wise man will rely on the Fealty of human opinion, and yet opinion may in a moment sway the politics of different powers so as totally to change all appearances. While the war continues, England has Hope. The Times and Chances which happen to all may favor her, and at worst she can conclude a peace which cannot be much more pernicious than the Loss of these States. We ought therefore to expect that Great Britain will continue the war and we ought even to expect that she will find allies to assist her in it. We ought therefore to prepare ourselves for increasing Efforts of opposition.

But admitting that negotiations were opened and in a Train of Effect, what then would be our situation? are we in Capacity to insist on useful and honorable Terms? There is hardly a State in the Union but has an Interest in objects which under our present Circumstances are unattainable. While the Enemy continue in Possession of New York and Charles Town, we cannot expect such a peace as every good American ought to desire. Nor shall we obtain that security, without which peace is no longer a Blessing.

The successes of last Campaign will undoubtedly derange the plans of the Enemy for a Time, but whether or not these successes will prove decisive must depend upon ourselves. If we indolently lie still until the Enemy can receive reinforcements, our Prospects at the Close of next Campaign may be as gloomy as at the opening of the last. If we exert ourselves to strike the Enemy before he can obtain aid, we may perhaps drive him entirely away and then indeed we shall have reason to expect Peace. It has been the common Trick of the Enemy to pretend at every success we have obtained, nay during every winter of the war that it would immediately cease, and they have had Emissaries among us to inculcate that Idea. The Consequence has been that we have never been in a state of preparation as soon as they, notwithstanding the Atlantic ocean lies between the two Countries, and places them at least three months asunder as to all military operations. No thinking man can hesitate a moment in the opinion that we ought to prepare for an early and vigorous Campaign, in order to take New York and Charlestown. But some persons of sanguine Temper say that the Enemy will evacuate one of these places. If it be so, surely they will be so much stronger at the other, and of Course it will be so much the more difficult to expel them from it. Possibly they may incline to evacuate one of these places and if so they will be determined by the Knowledge of our Force. If we are formidable, it will be additional reason with them for the Evacuation. But other persons still more sanguine suppose that they will evacuate both places. This is surely absurd, for even if they negotiate for peace they will hold something as a Ground on which to make Demands, and if things

prosecute the war they will certainly not abandon the object of it. Admitting however that the Enemy may have some Thoughts of this sort, surely the Determination will be greatly influenced by the Consideration of our relative Force or Imbecility and even if they should entirely quit the United States, still there are objects well worth fighting for, objects too which cannot be obtained without fighting.

Every reason therefore combines in showing the propriety of commencing our operations very early, and therefore every Thing has been done for the purpose which the means in my power would admit of. It remains only with the several states to provide men and money, and to make that provision as early as possible; for the old adage that he who gives early doubles thereby his Gift can never be more applicable than on the present occasion. For whatever may be the different opinions of different men, all must agree that the only way to secure a peace is to be prepared for war. And depend on it that if we neglect the present moment, we shall have bitter Cause to lament our negligence.

In the Letter before mentioned, I did myself the Honor to observe that I expected the future Expenditures would be greatly curtailed. This has happened. But I also observed that the most rigid oeconomy had its Bounds, and could not exist without the punctual performance of those Engagements on which the first steps towards it must depend. I have not yet reached these Bounds for reasons I have already stated, and how long it will be before I arrive at them must depend on the ability to perform the Engagements I have made; and surely it is unnecessary to add that this ability must depend on the Exertions of the States. I mentioned also that I should shortly advertise for Contracts, as the most effectual means of husbanding our resources. With respect to this matter of Contracts I have some reason to believe that it has been misunderstood, and therefore I shall take the Liberty of giving some little Information on the subject. When I was called into office I had a thorough Conviction that supplying by Contracts was most effectual and most oeconomical, but I had no money, and Credit was at so low an Ebb that most people doubted whether any one would contract. At that Time the State of Pensilvania gave me assurances of hard money to procure the articles of specific supplies due from that State, on the requisitions of Congress. I immediately purchased a part of those supplies on my private and personal Credit and assurances, and I advertised for a Contract to supply rations at Philadelphia. By Degrees I extended the Contracts throughout Pensilvania, whereas If I had advertized for them at once I might probably have failed in obtaining proposals, or if not, those who inclined to risque it would have made the public pay dear for the Credit reposed in their ministers. The Contracts for Pensilvania were paid out of monies granted for furnishing the supplies, and the articles are carried to account on the requisitions. Having

reason to expect support from the Middle and Eastern States, I have extended the Contracts for supplies thro all the Country northward and Eastward of Potowmac River, and in order that you may judge of the Effect, I will mention that on an application for pay to the Department of the issuing Commissary, I required a return of them and of their monthly pay, which being made, I found that within that District it amounted to ten thousand five hundred and twenty-five Dollars, which is annually for the salary alone, exclusive of all other Expenses one hundred and twenty-six thousand Dollars. The rations delivered at West Point and its Dependences are supplied at the rate of nine and an half ninetieths of a Dollar for each ration. Consequently that sum will yield one million, one hundred and ninety six thousand five hundred and twenty-six Rations, which is something more than three thousand two hundred and seventy-eight per Day. But when it is considered that salaries were not the only Expences of a Department, it is certainly estimating within Bounds to suppose that five thousand Soldiers are fed every Day on what it formerly cost the public to support the Issuers of provisions, in a part of the United States. I should have pursued the Business of contracting throughout America, had I received any assurances of Taxation which would warrant the Procedure. But I had none, and I did not dare risque myself in making Engagements which I found no probability of keeping. But whenever I can see my way clear, I certainly shall do it, and I trust that the Effects will be as beneficial as they have been elsewhere.

Having already observed on the necessity of early and vigorous Exertions, and mentioned that I had done every Thing towards them which was in my power, I have only to add that unless we are properly supported, every Thing so done has been thrown away. The Views of the Commander in Chief will be disappointed; The Combinations intended with our allies will be deranged, and the Enemy will derive that advantage from our negligence, which we might have derived from their weakness.

It gives me great pain to learn that the public service is too often interrupted, and the attention of men diverted from it, by little, trivial Disputes, of a private, partial or local nature, which are comparatively of little Consequence. This is a Conduct unworthy of wise men, and such as cannot be justified. Surely it is best first to provide for the Defence of our Country before we squabble about minute objects of Controversy. If we should be told that the British were so materially divided in their Parliament, that in contention about trivial Disputes, they delayed granting to the Crown effectual aid of money, we should certainly form very splendid Expectations from that Circumstance. Judge then, whether our Enemy's Hopes are not raised by our Dissensions; or, rather let me ask if they have not loudly asserted that they would prove ruinous to the Cause of Independence? nay, have they not boasted that those Dissentions originated in British Influence or British Gold?

What then must be the opinion of foreigners and strangers? What will they not conclude from a Conduct, which, according to their Habits of reasoning, can only be accounted for by Disaffection, Folly or madness? Let us, for Heaven's sake, while engaged in a cause the most honorable, the most virtuous, and which must endear the present Generation to future Ages. Let us preserve a Conduct noble, dignified and worthy of that glorious Cause. In pursuit of the greatest, the dearest Object which man can possess, In the fair road to peace, Liberty and Safety, let us not fall out by the way. But uniting to and supporting each other, let our efforts be equal to our Claims, and let us show that we have the Perseverance to obtain what we have had the spirit to demand. Let us at once become independent. Really and truly independent. Independent of our Enemies, of our Friends, of all but the Omnipotent.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient
and humble Servant,

ROB^t MORRIS.

His Excellency, the President of Pensilvania.

Indorsed,
Read in Council, Feb. 13th, 1782.

REV. GEO. DUFFIELD TO SEC'Y MATLACK, 1782.

Philadelphia, Feb. 14, 1782.

Sir,

The Rev. Mr. William Linn, of Cumberland County, is situated in a part of Country where several applications are made to him to marry by License, and as it is attended with great Inconveniency to apply to the Prothonotary of the County on every such occasion, he wishes to keep some Licenses by him for the purpose. If you will be so kind as to furnish him by Mr. Wm. McClure, the Bearer of this, with any number, not exceeding twelve, I shall be much obliged to you, & am firmly persuaded you may fully rely on his prudence in filling them, & making faithful Remittance.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble serv^t,

GEO. DUFFIELD.

Directed,
To Timothy Matlack, Esq.

HON. ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Philadelphia, 18th of Feb^y, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to transmit your Excellency several resolutions of Congress, which having a reference to the department of foreign affairs, are in course to pass thro' this office. The necessity

for carrying them into effect is too obvious to need observation. While we hold an intercourse with civilized nations, we must conform to laws which humanity has established & custom consecrated among them. On this the rights which the United States or their citizens may claim in foreign countries must be founded. The resolution No 2, passed Congress in consequence of a convention about to be concluded between his most Christian Majesty and the United States of America, which affords an additional reason for paying it the earliest attention. Your Excellency and the Legislature will see the propriety of rendering the laws on these subjects as simple, and the execution of them as expeditious as possible; since foreigners, who are the great object of them, are easily disgusted at complex systems, which they find a difficulty in understanding. And the honor and peace of a nation are frequently as much wounded by a delay as by a denial of justice.

The resolution No. 3 relates to your boundaries, and is designed as one means of ascertaining the territorial rights of the United States collectively, which can only be accurately known by each State's exhibiting its claims, and the evidence on which they found them. Your Excellency will therefore be pleased to direct that authentic Copies from your records of all grants, charters, maps, treaties with the natives and other evidences, to be transmitted to this office, as soon as you can conveniently collect them. I could wish that the copies might be proved by having the great seal of your State annexed.

I have the honor to be, Sir, With the greatest respect & esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

ROB. R. LIVINGSTON.*

His Excellency, William Moore, Esq., President of the State of Pensylvania.

Pres. Moore to His Excellency Jno. Dickinson, 1782.

In Council,

Philadelphia, July 19, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 14th of the present month has been read in Council, and ordered to be laid before the General Assembly, to whom the information it contains must be highly pleasing, and cannot fail of reviving in the house the consideration of the state in which the trade of Delaware river now stands, a consideration of high importance to the Husbandmen of Pennsylvania, as well as to the merchant and citizens.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 210.

The observations which you make concerning the long continued friendship, common interest and prudence, and friendly co-operation of the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania are too just to be passed by without due notice and attention, and I am confident you will find the state of Pennsylvania ever ready, on all occasions, to cultivate not only that harmony which ought to subsist between neighbouring States, but also to cherish that friendship and affection which is so advantageous to & becoming of adjoining sister states, united in one common cause & interest.

I have the honor to be, with great regard, sir,

Your most obt & very humble servt.

To His Excellency John Dickinson, Esquire.

Hon. James Cunningham to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Montjoy, February 19th, 1782.

Sir,

The collectors in this part of the countrey have (for some time past) been industrious in collecting the Taxes, and also the money from the Classes, and the people in general profess a willingness to pay, and are diligent in raising money for that purpose; but I am doubtfull if the collection of the old militia fines (in hard money,) be prosecuted with the same rigour it is begun; it will not only render many unable to pay their Taxes, &ca, but reduce them to poverty & distress; and however Just it is that such as have not rendered their personal service when called to the field should pay for their neglect, yet when such are called upon for their fines in hard money to be paid instantly, without any regard being had to their circumstances, it will reduce many to the utmost difficulty, and indeed there are but few of ability to bear up under it, as money is but scarce in proportion to the demand there is for it—Some who have been accounted of tollerable circumstances have been nearly ruined, by their property being sold (sometimes) at less than one fourth the value. I shall only trouble your Excellency with an instance of one who is possessed of a middling Farm; the fines he was charged with was £21 10 when the collectors called upon him he had not the money, but told the collectors he would endeavour to borrow it and pay him in a few Days, however the collector would not spare him, but took two Horses, and Drove off seven head of horned Cattle, there are many in similar circumstances, and if measures more lenient are not prosecuted those people will be rendered incapable of cultivating their farms—how far it may be the duty of Council to interfere in this mattter I do not know, but am of opinion (if it can be done with propriety,) they ought to have

the opportunity of an Appeal.—I should not have troubled you with these lines, but sickness in my family has prevented my being in Philadelphia so soon as I intended.

I am, Dear Sir, with every sentiment of respect
your Excellency's most obedient Humble Servant,
JAMES CUNNINGHAM.

Directed,—His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, Philadelphia.

Col. Thomas Scott to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Washington, February 20th, 1782.

Dear Sir,

I had lately the honour of adressing a few lines to Council, whereof I Expected Col^l Cannon would been the bearer, but missing of that opertunity have since found one by which I expect the are or very soon will arive: Inclosed therein is sundry returns for justices of the peace, with some account of the Circumstances of Their Election. I now Inclose the Return of Summerset, being the new Township struck of off Fallowfield, which I also mentioned in my last, you will observe that Mr. Parker is in both these returns, being first elected in Fallowfield, and being thrown into Summerset by the division is now again elected.

I am Told this day that the Indeans have made sundry depredations on the frontiers of this Country, during the last open spell of weather, particularly on Racoon Creek, and up the Monangohela, I think at a place called Buckhanan. I fear this is the begining of more than usual Calamity.

I have the honour to be
with the Greatest Respect
your Excellencies and Councils
very humbl. Servt.,
THO. SCOTT.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Pres. Moore to Thomas Willing, 1782.

In Council, Feb'ry 21st, 1782.

Sir

Your Letter dated ye 9th Instant,* inclosing the Petition address'd to the General Assembly of this State, was yesterday Received, read in Council, & this day laid before the Assembly agreeable to Request expressed in said Letter.

I am, Sir, y^r most hum. Servt.,
Wm MOORE, President.

Directed,—Thomas Willing, Esqr.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 200, 201.

Capt. Isaac Craig to Pres. Moore, 1782.

His Excellency the President, and the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Memorial of Captain Isaac Craig, of the Penn^a Regiment of Artillery, Humbly Sheweth,

That, confiding in the Attention ever shown by your Excellency and the Honble Council over whom you preside—Your Memorialist is emboldenʼd to lay before you a Matter, which, thoʼ little in its Consequences to the World, to *him* in its Issues is of the greatest importance, Viz., my rank in the Army, my right of promotion disputed. I therefore beg leave to lay before your Excellency (looking up to you and the Honble Council as the Guardians of the rights of your Officers) a state of my claim, resting assured of impartial Justice being done me.—At the beginning of the present Contest, I took up Arms in defence of my Countryʼs rights, determined to lay them down only with my life, or an establishment of our freedom.

In November, 1775, I was appointed a first Lieutenant of Marines in the Navy, then fitting out by the Continent, and in that Capacity acted, commanding the Marines, on board the Andrew Doria, ten months—Permit me to observe, that your Memorialist was then the oldest Lieutenant, and, of course, entitled to the first Vacancy, which Vacancy happened the first of April, 1776, but was not fillʼd up, occasioned by my being at Sea, and not having an opportunity of applying to the Marine Committee for that purpose. On my return to this Harbour in October, 1776, I had a Captainʼs commission given me, dated the time of my Arrival, and was informed by the Marine Committee, that my absence and no certainty of my return, was the reason I was not appointed to one of the Ships then fitting out. I esteemed the date of Commission in the Navy as of little consequence, being determined to embrace the first opportunity of removing into the Army. In November, 1776, the Marines under the command of Major Nicols, of that Corps, were ordered to join the Army, and continued doing the duty of Infantry until about the 20th of February, when we received orders to take charge of some pieces of Artillery, and have the Marines instructed in that duty.

March the 23rd—1777, Your Memorialist was appointed second Captain in the Regiment of Artillery, then forming under the Command of Colonel Proctor, and by the resignation of Captain Dericks in May following, became first Captain; at the decease of Lieutenʼt Colonel Strohbogh, and the promotion of Major Forest to that Vacancy, your Memorialist became intitled to a Majority, which Vacancy, I presume, has not been fillʼd—ʼtis true Major Eustis, of the Massachusetts line, done that duty in the Regiment some time, but I am informed he was not acknowledged by the Supreme executive Authority of this State.

From my first entering into the Service of my Country, I have endeavour'd to learn my duty; and, tho' often arduous and difficult, have found a particular pleasure in doing it; my conduct as an officer, I trust, will stand a scrutiny. In June, 1776, during my absence *at sea*, for several frigates then building here, Officers were appointed, among whom Captain Porter (who now disputes rank with your Memorialist) was Commissioned Captain of Marines, and continued as such Untill the 28th of April following, at which time he was appointed Captain of Artillery, *but by some means* has got a Commission ante-dated to the first of January preceeding. I have ever esteemed Resolutions of Congress Sacred—Acts of that August body, and of the legislatures of these States, good security for the rights of Soldiers as well as Citizens; in these Acts I wish to rest my claims, and beg leave to recite *one* of the first of April, 1777, which, I presume, will appear pertinent to this Subject.

"Resolved, that no Officers already appointed, or to be hereafter "appointed, shall take rank by Virtue of a Commission Antidated; "but rank shall be determined by the time of appointment, unless "otherwise directed by a special resolution of Congress;"—hence it appears Captain Porter cannot rank as an Artillery Officer previous to the 28th of April, 1777; to which time he received pay as Captain of Marines, as may appear on record of the Merine Committee. It will further appear, that while paid as a Navy Officer, he also received pay as Captain of Artillery from the first of January, 1777, —almost four months before he was an artillery officer, and almost four months receiving pay in a *double* capacity. This last I am constrained to Mention *in this place* Merely as an argument Necessarily connected with the establishment of my present claim.

Captain Porter says his Commission was Antidated in consequence of a resolution of Congress of the 24th of November, 1778—which I take the liberty to quote.—"Resolved, therefore, that, upon any "dispute of rank, the following rules shall be hereafter observed:— "for determining rank in the Continental line, between all Colonels "and inferior Officers of different States, between like officers of In- "fantry and those of Horse Artillery, appointed under the Authority "of Congress, by Virtue of a resolution of Septr the 16th 1776—or "by Virtue of any Subsequent resolution prior to January the 1st, "1777—all such officers shall be deemed to have their commissions "dated from the day last mentioned; and their relative rank with "respect to each other in the Continental line of the Army, shall "be determined by their rank prior to tho 16th day of Septr, 1776. "—This rule shall not be consider'd to affect the rank of the line "within any State, or within the Corps of Artillery, Horse, or "Among the 16 Additional Battalions, where the rank has been "settled, but shall be the rule to determine the relative Rank within "the particular line of Artillery so far as the rank remains Unsettled."

Your Memorialist humbly apprehends, that the above resolution, by which Captain Porter attempts to support his claim, has no allu-

sion to his case, either directly or impliedly, as it was intended to opperate on the rank of the Officers of the 88 Battalions *only*, or those appointed in the Army between the 16th of Septr, 1776, and the 1st of January, 1777, & as before observed, Capt Porter's acknowledging himself a navy officer, by receiving pay in that line up to the 28th of April, 1777. *He* could have no pretensions to rank in the Army previous to that time—But, could it be admitted that service in the Navy should intitle Officers to promotion in the Army, which at no time appears to be the intention of Congress, I presume your Memorialist has the first claim—being first in commission—and actual Service at sea only prevented the promotion due him from taking place in April, 1776, as before observed, which appears to be some months prior to Capt Porter's offering his Service—and if *he, Capt. Porter's*, recruiting a Company of Marines in the Summer of 1775 Merits your Attention, Your Memorialist presumes, that doing that duty in 1775, and serving at Sea untill Octr, 1776, Claims your Notice. Major Nicols, who is well acquainted with your Memorialist's conduct whilst an Officer under his command, will, if Necessary, Attest what is Asserted respecting Service in the Navy.

Your Memorialist begs leave further to Observe, that His Excellency our late president, who was a Member of the board of Arrangement in 1778, informed him, that that Board, in giving rank to Officers, not only attended to their appointments, but had a Minute retrospect to the dates of Vacancies to which they were intituled. Being ordered to Fort Pitt in March, 1780, (previous to Capt Porter's joining the Pennr Regiment) and Continuing on that distant Command, will, I hope, be a sufficient apology for your Memorialist's late application.

In our service, may it please your Excellency, Honor is the only personal Consideration an Officer has to fight for; 'tis therefore connected with the Vitals of our Military establishment; in this consideration, your Excellency will excuse the prolixity of an Address Originating from Principles of self support and preservation.

Your Memorialist Subscribes himself,

With the most profound respect,

Your Excellency's

Obedient Humble Servant,

ISAAC CRAIG.

Philadelphia, 21st Feb'y, 1782.

Directed,

His Excellency The President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Report of Committee on Letter from Superintendant of Finance, 1782.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the Superr of Finance, of February, 1782, was committed, do report the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the Minister of War do cause accurate returns to be made of every Non Commis^d Officer & private in the Army of the U. S. who shall be in actual service on the first day of April next, specifying the particular State to which each man belongs.

Resolved, That Congress will on the first day of May next proceed to determine the value of which every Non Commis^d Officer & private in the Army of the United States shall be estimated; and will then debit every State in acc^t for the recruiting service, with such estimated value for every Non Commis^d Officer & private assigned to such State respectively, in the month of October, 1780—And will then Credit every State in s^d Account for every Non Commis^d Officer & private, which shall appear to be in actual service on the s^d first day of April & belonging to such State respectively, with the s^d estimated value. That for every recruit that shall join the Army after the s^d first day of April & before the s^d first day of May, the State to whom such recruit belongs, shall be credited Nine Tenths of the s^d Estimated value. For every such recruit that shall join the s^d Army after the 1st day of May & before the 1st day of June following, Eight Tenths of said estimated value. For every such Recruit that shall join the Army after the 1st day of June & before the 1st day of July following, Seven Tenths of said estimated sum. For every such Recruit that shall join the Army after the first day of July & before the 1st day of August, Six Tenths of such estimated value. For every Recruit that shall join the said Army after the first day of August & before the first day of September, Five Tenths of such estimated value. For every such Recruit that shall join the Army after the first day of September & before the first day of October, four Tenths of such estimated value—but that no allowance be made for any recruit whose period of inlistment shall be less than three years, or during the War.

Resolved, That every such Recruit shall be considered as joined to the Army, as soon as he shall march for the place to which he is ordered on service from the place of general rendezvous within the State, to be appointed by the Commander in Chief—and in order to determine such time of marching the Time of Arrival shall be determined and an allowance made for marching thither, calculating on the distance at the rate of 15 miles ℔ Day.

Resolved, That the recruits be maintained at the Expence of the States until they shall join as afs^d, but that during the time of marching an allowance be made to the State for each Non Commis^d Officer & man at the rate of $\frac{1}{60}$ of a Dollar ℔ mile, for every mile from the said place of rendezvous to the place where they shall arrive as af^d.

Resolved, That the Minister of War cause the several men of the different State Lines to be arranged within the respective Lines, in such manner as to form compleat Corps or parts of Corps, so that

there be a due proportion of men to the Officers according to the establishment as near as conveniently may be.

Resolved, That the remaining Officers, except such as the Commander in Chief may think proper to retain in service for particular purposes, retire to their respective States until such time as the State shall provide men for them to Command, agreeably to the establishment, & that in the mean time the s^d States provide the pay, rations & Forage allowed to the said Officers respectively by the several Resolutions & Acts of Congress upon that subject.

The Committee desired to sit again.

Pres. Moore to Speaker of Assembly, 1782.

In Council,
Philad^a, Feb'y 22d, 1782.

Sir,

I inclose you a letter from his Excellency, General Washington, dated the 21st instant, and request that you will please to lay the same before the General Assembly.

I am, &c.

Pres. Moore to Gen. Washington, 1782.

In Council,
Philadelphia, Feb'y 22, 1782.

Sir,

Your Excellency's letter of the 21st* of the present month, has been read in Council and laid before the General Assembly for their consideration.

I have the honor to be
with great regard,
your Excellency's
most obedient servant.

Directed,
His Excellency, George Washington, Esqr, Commander in Chief.

Deposition of Sarah Keith, 1782.

Bucks, ss.

On the 22d Day of February A. D. 1782, Personally appeared before me John Chapman one of the Justices of said county, Sarah Keith of Upper Makefield in said County, (being Housekeeper for her brother John Keith) and on her oath declared, that on Saturday

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 202.

the 16th of this Ins't about 8 O'clock in the Evening, her Brothers House was surrounded by a number of Armed Men—and one of them entering the Kitchen enquired if the Man of the House was at home; and being answered in the negative—He then asked if he was not a Collector, and this Deponant saying, yes—He then demanded if there was not money in the House—This Deponant replied, none that she knew of—He then declared he must see whether there was or not—Ordered his Comrads who were out of Doors to take care of the People in the House—And then proceeded to search. He went from the Kitchen very directly thro' the House and upstairs and through a Front Room in the Chamber into a Back Room where this Deponents Brother John Usually lodged, immediately took hold of the lid of a Chest in said Room, and it being locked, he ordered this Deponent (whom he had Commanded to attend him with a Candle) immediately to unlock it, she did so, he searched the said Chest, and afterwards every other Chest Drawers and Cupboards that he found, and almost every Part of the House. He commanded this deponent with Threats, and a Boy belonging to the house with threats, and a Pistol presented to his Breast, to tell him where the Money was. They both persisting in a Refusal or a Declaration that they knew not. The Robber at Length making a Motion to go away and take with him a Gun, a Sword and Bayonet which he found in the House, the Man who stood Sentry at the Kitchen Door, Bid him take Nothing but what belonged to the Congress; He accordingly left them and went off with the Others without taking any Thing but a Few Biscuit he found in the Kitchen.

The One who came into the House appeared about 5 Foot 10 Inches high—about 22 or 23 years old with black Hair, dark Complexion, Smooth face, a little Out-mouthed—had on a large Scolloped Hat. A light grey Coloured Bears Skin great Coat with a large falling Collar of the same, buttoned up so that his Other Cloaths could not be seen—except his pale blue yarn Stockings & Calf Skin Shoes with Silver Buckles of the French Pattern. The Man who stood at the Kitchen Door, this Deponent judged to be near the same Height—had a Great Coat on with the Cape buttoned close to his Face—had a Gun in his Hand, and when this Deponent went to the Door with a candle, he turned his Face from her, and walked towards the Garden Pales. This Deponent saw two other men at the other Doors, and believes there were in all five Men.

In Witness whereof she hath here under Subscribed her name,

SARAH KEITH.

Sworn and taken February ye 22d, A. D. 1782, before me

JOHN CHAPMAN.

Col. Thomas Craig to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Camp Ponpon, Feb'y 26th, 1782.

Sir,

Enclosed is a return of the Deserters that have deserted from the Detachment under my command since I left Pennsylvania untill the present period. It will doubtless alarm your Excellency and the Honorable Council to see it, but when we consider that those men were marched away in a linen Hunting Shirt, Overalls and Vest of the same, that the contract made with them by the public was not complied with, that the Season was extreamly severe, many of them without Shoes or Stockings, and obliged to perform forced marches of fifteen and twenty miles a day (sometimes upwards,) through a Country that afforded them but indifferent supplies, I say when we come to consider all these difficulties it will in some measure lessen our resentment against them, and while we are exerting ourselves in getting these offenders apprehended, we will (I hope,) at the same time use our best endeavours in making better provision for the virtuous that have withstood every hardship.

I can with pleasure inform your Excellency that only four have deserted from us since our arrival on the enemies lines, three of whom have since been taken and are now in Confinement.

The public packets that accompany this will inform your Excellency more fully of the state of this Country and Army than I can undertake to do—the enemy (in my opinion,) are tired fighting—they keep in Charles Town and its Vicinity.

I have the honor to be
with unfeigned esteem and respect
your Excellency's most obed.
and most Humble Servt.,
THO^s CRAIG, Colonel.
Command^g P Brigade.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr., President of the State Pennsylvania.

Col. Samuel Hunter to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Sunbury, February 28th, 1782.

Dear Sir,

As the Spring is now Approaching and the deep snow going off the Ground, which intimidates the people that stayed on our Frontiers this Winter, as all that detained them there was on account of their Cattle to bring them through the Winter, as our County Court is now sitting, I have the Oppertunity of conversing with a number of the Inhabitants, which Realy declares to me that they intend to move of from the Frontiers (or at least to put their

familys all out of the way of danger,) as they Expect the Cruel Hostill Visits from their unmercifull Enimys Early in the spring that they have Experienced this three years past, and indeed to be candid I never see our County worse prepared to stand. Our numbers is few and will be less the first stroke we get, as our Frontiers is become Very Extensive and no Troops but Captain Robinson's Company (which I suppose has Received orders from Council to be here soon,) and when this Company comes here they are no way adiquit to give our Frontiers the assistance Requisite to encourage them to stay with any safety on their places, it has been in Contemplation for Robinson's Company to bee all Ordered to Fort Muncy and Repair that Garrison, in my Humble Oppinion it would be the only way to have the most service done by the Company, for there they could be kept properly to their duty and be under subbordination that they would Render service to the County, there is one thing I would Reccommend to Council to appoint some one of our Majors that has Retired under half pay to superintend the five Companys of Rangers that is now Raiseing for the Defence of this State as such an Officer might Visit the diferent Companys and deliver them the Orders he would Receive from Council at their stationed places, it would strike the men with more awe to see their Officers Receive Orders from some higher in Rank Imediatly on the spot, there is Major James Parr I would Recommend for this Service if its Agreeable to Council. The seven months men is uneasy about their pay and I could wish with all my heart there was a Possabillity of paying them off, as it would Encourage men to Engage in the same service again if Required, and as there is now taxes Collecting in this County, the Commissioners might deliver what money they Receive to the Paymaster, William Gray, if Council would order it so, it might be a means of Satisfying the seven months men.

If Council is determined to order Captain Robinson's Company to Fort Muncey it would at least Require one Hundred men to keep proper out scouts and Repair the Garrison—as for news I Refer you to the Bearer Col^l Cook, and I am D^r S^r with Esteem your most Obed^t and Very Humble Serv.,

SAM^l HUNTER, Lt N. C.

N. B. Captain Robinson seems a little uneasy that he was not intrusted with the money that was sent up to my care to Recrute his Company, I told him I must do my duty and he was Particularly acquainted with the Orders I Rec^d from his Excellency ye Governor but if he would Receive Orders to get the money it was at his Service, I am sorry the Bounty for the line and Rangeing Companys should differ so much.

Directed, S. H.

Honorable James Potter, Esqr., Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Fav'd by Coll. Wm. Cook.

Robert Morris to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Office of Finance, 1st March, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the Honor to enclose to your Excellency the Copy of a Letter which I received Yesterday from the General. Capt. Van Heer will undertake to recruit his Corps, at the Rate of twelve Pounds ℔ man, and I am informed that the State give fifteen. I am also informed that Capt. Van Heer will be able to get men which other Recruiting Officers cannot, owing to Circumstances of Personal acquaintance and Influence. The Genl. considers the Completion of this Corps as so important, that I have consented, notwithstanding the narrowness of my Funds, to incur the heavy Expence of Cloathing, Horses, Accoutrements, &c. I take the Liberty to propose to Council that I furnish money to Capt. Van Heer for recruiting his Corps, and that the State repay me at the Rate of twelve Pounds for every such Recruit, the Recruit to be credited on the quota of State Troops. If this however should be inconvenient, I shall be content to pay the Bounties on the Part of the United States, provided the men be not credited to any particular State, but considered as a continental Corps.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your Ob^t Ser^t,

ROB^t MORRIS.*

Directed,

His Excellency, The President of the State.

Gen. Washington to Robert Morris, 1782.

Philada., 28th February, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the Honor to enclose Capt. Van Heers Estimates of the Sums, in his Opinion sufficient to recruit, mount, and accoutre his Corps. Agreeable to your desire I applied the beginning of this month to the President and Council for an advance of a Sum of money for recruiting upon this Principle that as the men would be raised in the State and considered as a part of its Quota, it appeared to me but reasonable that the State should furnish money for the Purpose.

I received for answer, that Colo. Humpton was recruiting Men for the State at large, and that I might at any time if I thought proper draft the number of Men requisite to fill Capt. Van Heers Corps from the Line. This would in fact be doing nothing, it would only encrease one Corps at the Expence of another.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 211—also p. 486 of this.

The duty of Capt. Van Heers Corps is so essential that I wish to see it reestablished by the opening of the Campaign and I for that reason request that such assistance may be given to him as you can afford and as early as possible.

I have the Honor to be
with great Respect and Esteem
Sir, your most Obt. sert.*

Copy.
Directed,
Hombl. Mr. Morris.

Pres. Moore to Hon. R. R. Livingston, 1782.

In Council, March 2, 1782.

Sir,
I am honor'd with your favor of 18th Feb'y† last, Inclosing Resolutions of Congress of Nov. 23, 1781, Jan. 25, & Feb. 11, 1782—likewise a Letter mark'd Circular, not bearing any date, all which I shall lay before the General Assembly of this State now Sitting, who I make no doubt will pay a proper Attention to the Several Important Concerns therein mentioned.

Indorsed,
1782, March 2nd, To Honble Mr. Livingston, Minister of Foreign affairs.

Resolutions of Assembly.—Boundary Line, 1782.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly.

Saturday, March 2nd, 1782—A. M.

The Committee appointed (February 28th,) to confer with the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council respecting the Boundary Line between this State and Virginia,

Reported,
That Council and your Committee are unanimous in Opinion—from the great expences necessarily attending the compleating the Line between this State and Virginia, it would be most prudent to defer it for the present. And that a temporary Line during the Continuance of the present War, or till times are more settled on

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 211.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 210.

the Frontiers, may be made and agreed on at a small expence, which will answer every purpose expected,—and to effect which Council will take the necessary measures. Which having been read

On Motion,

Resolved, That the House doth agree to the above Report.*

Extract from the Minutes,

PETER Z. LLOYD,

Clerk of the General Assembly.

Directed,

For the Honorable, the Supreme Executive Council.

JOSEPH HART TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

March ye 8^d, 1782.

Hon^d Sir,

I beg your Excellencies and Council's attention to the following Robberies & Attempts of Robberies in our County; (Viz: about 5 or 6 Weeks agoe, four Armed Men, about 9 o'Clock in the Evening, all on Horse-back, came to the House of one Shoemaker, Collector of Fines and Taxes in the Township of New-Brittain; (the Man and his Wife having taken a Ride out in their Slay and not yet come home, and no Man about House) they demanded the Money with Threats, of his Daughter, a young Girl scarce grown up, and obliged her to get the Keys, and, after much search, got 9 Spanish Dollars and a small Sum of State Money only; and that, or most of it, private property, he having taken the Publick Money with him rather than risque it at Home in his Absence. The Villains seemed extremely Chagrined at their Disappointment, but resolved, however, to have his 2 young Mares; but had the Mortification to be told that he had them in his Slay along with him. This account I have at 2nd Hand, but I believe I am pretty right. And on Saturday Night was 2 Weeks, about the same Hour in the Evening, the House of John Keith, Collector of Fines & Taxes (likewise) in the Township of Upper-Wakefield, by the same Number of Armed Men; but they brought no Horses to the House, tho' it is believed they had them at a Distance. One Man only entered the House (the rest standing Sentries at the Door). He had no body to oppose him but a young woman Keith's Sister,† Step-Mother and a Boy, Keith being from Home also: But previous to his going, had so Secured the Money as to elude the Search and prevent the Loss of a Penny. The Villain who entered the House, after the usual Questions whether the Man was at Home or not, and if he was not a Collector,—Demanded the Money. The young Woman (who it seems was a little smart) was for settling Preliminaries, and w^d know if he wanted any thing else

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., pp. 192, 209.

† See Deposition, page 501.

but the Money, and he said he did not; well, then, said she, you shall take nothing else, and watched him with a Candle in her Hand during the whole Search, which, however, proved abortive; and they all went of, Threatening that they would have the Money and Man at a future Day. And last Thursday night, past 7 o'Clock in the Evening, 2 Men came to the House of Capt Ralph Williamson, Collector of Fines for the Township of Wrightstown; (he also being just gone from Home, and none but a Wife and Children in the House) one of them slipped in, and the other sat upon his Horse at the Door. The Robber in the House, after the usual enquiry, proceeded to Search for Money, and found the hard, amounting to £22, 10, but did not find the State; and after taking a Bottle out of one of their Saddle-Bags and urging the Woman to Drink, went of, saying they did not want to hurt her nor the Children, but if her Husband had been at Home they had something to say [to] him. The Woman Immediately called home her Husband, who was only gone over to a Neighour's House; but too late; the Robbers were gone. The next Morning their Tracks were taken and followed for several Miles, notwithstanding they had made many turnings, windings, and sometimes seperated to elude the pursuit; But all to no purpose. One Man was afterwards taken up upon a slight Suspiscion, but I have not heard the Consequence. And The same Night (the Heur not known) one of the next Neighbours to the Collector of the Township of Warminster, thinking he heard something about his House, jumped up in his Shirt and slipped out, when he saw three Men standing at a small Distance. Two kept their standing, but the 3d advanced a few Paces, and asked if that was the Way to Dilworth's. Instead of answering the Question, he asked his Name, and what they did there at that time of Night; to which no Answer being made, he (like a Man of Spirit) called for his Gun, which was handed to him Immediately. The Villains then took to their Heels, and his Gun missing Fire twice, and he being Naked and not in a Condition to pursue far, they all got of; but, in all likelihood, this broke their Plan and saved the publick Money then in the Collector's Hands. But while such atrocious Villains remain amongst us, no Man who can be supposed to have Money, is safe; for my own part, I do not think I am, as they can collect too great a Force for any common Man to withstand.

I am, Hon. Sir,

Your Excellencies and the Council's

Most Obdt humble Servant,

JOSEPH HART.

Directed,

His Excellency Wm Moore, Esqr, President and Governour of the State of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Moore to Speaker of Assembly, 1782.

In Council, M^ch ye 4, 1782.

Sir,

Herewith you will Receive two Letters from the Honble the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the one dated Feb. 18, 1782, inclosing sundry Resolutions of Nov. 28, 1781, Jan. 25, Feb. 11 & 18, 1782 —the other marked Circular, without any date. You'll please to lay the above before the Hon'ble House of Representatives, who, I make no doubt, will pay a proper Attention to the Many Important Concerns therein mentioned.

I am, with the greatest Respect.*

Gen'l Washington to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philadelphia, March 5th, 1782.

Sir,

The operations of next Campaign being contingent; depending in a great degree upon measures which are not within my controul, and very much upon the plans of the Enemy & their efforts to carry them into execution, it is impossible for me at this time to say whether any, or how many Militia, the States in this part of the Continent may be called upon to furnish, for the purposes of the ensuing Campaign, but as I persuade myself it is the wish of every one of them to see a vigorous offensive plan prosecuted, with a view of terminating the War honorably & speedily; it becomes my duty to inform that the Continental Force (admitting the Battalions should be compleated) aided by any Auxiliary Troops that I have any expectations of, is totally inadequate to the first & great *Object* which presents itself to our view, and therefore it may be essential to my future plans, that the Executive Powers should be (if they are not so already) vested with sufficient authority to call forth properly equipped such a Body of Militia as the exigencies of Service may require—the demand will not be made but in case of necessity, and will be postponed as long as possible; the consequence therefore of the want of such Powers or of the delay occassion'd by calling an Assembly, on such an emergency might prove fatal to our operations, and injurious to our Cause.

I need not add how much it is my wish & desire, and how much the publick interest will be promoted by it, that the Continental Regiments should be compleated—every man of which these are deficient, will add to the Draught of Militia, and doubly to the public expences —while these Troops will not be so competent to the purposes for which they are wanted, to say nothing of the disadvantages which Agri-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 219.

culture & Manufactures will sustain by having the Labourers & Artisans called off from their employments.

I would beg leave to suggest that the longer term Militia can be drawn out for, the more beneficial, & less expensive will their services be; and that, in case of a Siege, they ought to be engaged during the continuance of it, or untill relieved by an equal number, that the operating strength may not be diminished at a critical moment, when their services may be most wanted.

In the course of last year, when an operation against New York was in contemplation I took the liberty of applying to the State of Pennsylvania for a Corps of Riflemen, then believing, and afterwards (at the Seige of York) proving the vast utility of them—I am induced thus early to renew my application on that head, that in case the State should be called upon for Militia, at least three-hundred, properly Officered, may be of the Class of Riflemen.

I have the honor to be
With great respect
your Excellency's
most Obd^t Servant,
G^o WASHINGTON.*

Indorsed,
Read in Council March 11, 1782.

Directed,
To his Excellency President Moore.

Council to Assembly, 1782.

In Council,
Philadelphia, March 7, 1782.

Sir,

The Council having observed, in the Public papers, intelligence importing, that the State of Connecticut had passed a law for the purpose of raising a regiment for the defence of the *western frontiers* of that state, and knowing of no *western* frontiers of Connecticut which should seem to stand in need of special defence, the Council conceive the regiment mentioned may too probably, hereafter be stationed at Wioming and under pretence of defending their *western frontier*, may be designed to strengthen that post against the just Claim of this† state. The Council think it their duty to call the attention of the General Assembly to this fact; and the measures which may be adviseable and expedient to obtain information respecting the real intention of the said law and the precautions

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 221.
See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 215.

necessary to be taken on the part of the state, the wisdom of the House will no doubt readily suggest, and the importance of the subject will induce a due attention to it.

Directed,
Speaker of the Genl. Assembly.

Col. Michael Huffnagle to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Hannas Town, March 8th, 1782.

Hon^d Sir,

Inclosed are the Proceedings of an Election held for a Magistrate Ordered by Joseph M. Sarraugh, Esquire, for the Township of Huntington it appears that Captain Nehemiah Stokely is the first on the List.

I would just mention to your Excellency, that he serv'd with reputation in the Continental Service for three years, that upon the arrangement of the army he was left out as one of the Supernumary officers after which he commanded a Rangin Company Ordered by the Hon'ble Supream Executive Council, at the time General Mc Intosh Commanded this District, and lives with Reputation amongst his Neighbours, both the gentlemen from Westmoreland & Washington Counties are well acquainted with his Character.

I am sorry to inform you, that I am apprehensive, we shall have but few Militia on the Frontiers this Season, for want of arms, Col^l Lochry* on his unfortunate expedition down the River took the best & most public arms along with him, & a number taken by the Savages on the Frontiers will render it impossible to arm them unless speedily supplied by your Excellency and Council. The Savages last Sunday three Weeks took into Captivity two Families upon Raccoon & Short Creeks below Pittsburgh. I am afraid the first good weather we may expect a stroke upon some of our Frontiers here.

Coll. Proctor one of our Members of Assembly has reported to the People here, that I had received from the Hon'ble Council five hundred pounds Specie, for the supplying of the Militia. To convince the People of his mistake, I shall be obliged to you (if not to much Trouble) to send me a Certificate, as Council well knows, that I only got a draught upon the Treasurer of this County, for one hundred pounds which I am sorry to inform you is not paid for the want of a Tax being laid.

I must likewise inform your Excellency if an Expedition should be Ordered into the Indian Country, I am afraid it will be impossible to get the same Carried early into Execution, as a number of French Traders, are now buying up most of the Wheat on this side the

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 458.

Mountains to export to New Orleans; and perhaps may be a means of supplying the Enemy, by their being taken on the River which is easily done. If an Expedition should be ordered out, I can assure you, without there is an imbargoe laid for some Months, the same will be stop't untill flower can be procured from the other side of the Mountains.

Coll. Gibson has ordered out Sixty of the Militia to be stationed upon our Frontiers for one Month.

I hope your Excellency will excuse the Liberty I have taken to trouble you with this Letter.

I have the Honor to be
your Excellency's most
obt. Humble Servt.,
MICH. HUFFNAGLE.

Directed,
His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr:

Indorsed,
1782, April 3rd, rec'd. From Michael Huffnagle Esqr.

Robt. Morris to Pres. Moore, 1782.

(Circular.)

Office of Finance, 9th March, 1782.

Sir,

On the twentieth and twenty seventh of last month the United States in Congress passed Acts for settling and finally adjusting all the public accounts up to the first day of the present year. These important Acts would immediately have been transmitted, but I wait the Event of some additional Propositions upon that Subject which are now under the Deliberation of Congress and then I shall have the Honor of laying before you the whole of this very important Business so that it may be maturely considered in a general and comprehensive point of View.

At present I shall confine myself to congratulating your Excellency which I do with the most unfeigned Pleasure on the Prospect which begins to open of adjusting these intricate and almost obsolete Transactions, of relieving the various public Creditors and consequently of rescuing and restoring the public Credit. Let me add Sir, that I consider these things as essential to the Consolidation of our federal Union, to the Promotion of general Harmony and generous Confidence throughout the United States, and to the Establishment of our glorious Independence on the Solid Base of Justice. I am to request Sir, that your public accounts be put in a State of Prepara-

tion or that the Person appointed for that Purpose may be able speedily to investigate them, as much Time and consequently much Expence will be thereby spared.

I have the Honor to be
with very great Respect
Sir, your Excellency's
most obedient & humble Servant,
ROBT. MORRIS.

Directed,
His Excellency, The President of Pensylvania.
Indorsed,
Read in Council March 12, 1782. Ans^d T. M., Sec^y.

Pres. Moore to Robt. Morris, 1782.

In Council, Philad., March 11, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 9th instant* has been read in Council and afforded very great pleasure.

I am authorised to assure you, that the Council will order our accounts with the United States to be immediately prepared, and hope they will be so stated as to occasion the least expence of time & trouble to the person appointed to investigate them that a transaction of this kind will admit of.

I am with great regard
Sir, your most obedient servant,
W. M., Prest.

Robert Morris, Esqr., Superintendent of Finance.

Pres. Moore to Speaker of Assembly, 1782.

In Council,
Philada., March 11, 1782.

Sir,

A letter from His Excellency Genl. Washington, dated the 5th instant,† was this day read in Council. The importance of the subject requires that it should be laid before the General Assembly, who alone can give authority to continue the militia of the state in service longer than the time now limited by law, even in the case of a siege.

You will judge, sir, of the propriety of suggesting to the consideration of the house the ordering the Gallery to be cleared and the

* See page 512. † See page 502.

days shut before the Genl's letter be read, which seems the more to deserve their consideration as it contains intimations of the intended operations of the Federal Army.

I am, &c.,

W. M., Prest.

Directed,

Hn'ble Fred. A. Muhlenburg, Esq., Speaker of Genl. Assembly.

Col. Abraham Smith to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Cumberland County, March 15th, 1782.

Sir,

I have this day Received an order of Council Directing me to call one Company of Militia for the Defence of Bedford County. I would beg liberty to represent to your Excellency and Council the Difficulties we labour under in sending Militia to the frontiers; we have not any ammunition in this County belonging to the Publick, nor do I think men could be found in Provisions, as there is no Commissarys Stores where it would be any way Convenient for that purpose; neither are we in a situation to purchase at this time, (were we even sure to get it allowed in our accounts,) as little can be done without hard money, and we have none of that, nor are we able to get much of it Collected, as it is an article very Scarce in this County; the most part of the people lyable to pay fines are very poor, and when they go to Bedford County I know of no way fixed to get Provisions. The Battalion from this County that served there last fall were frequently likely to suffer, and the Lieutenant of that County was under the necessity of Discharging them two or three weeks before their times were up because they Could not be Provided for. I assure your Excellency that such is our Situation at this time. Some ammunition is absolutely necessary, as our men will never march without it. I had grate Difficulty to procure a very small allowance for them the last time they marched. I very sensibly feel for the Distresses of the frontiers, yet I can never be of the oppinion that a few men sent to them mountains is of much service.

I waite your Excellency's further orders and Direction, and nothing shall be wanting on my part that is in my power to Carry them into execution.

I am your Exellency's most

obedient and very Hum'e Servt.,

AB'M SMITH.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr., President of the Supreme Executive Council.

Gen. Wm. Irvine to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Carlisle, March 17, 1782.

Sir

I find, notwithstanding the precautions taken by the Hon'ble the Council, & the vigilence of the Recruiting officers to prevent British Deserters and Prisoners entering into our service, that several have perjured themselves, and are actually in service—some of whom are now in confinement at this place for that crime. It is difficult to determine what punishment should be inflicted, or what steps would be most likely to deter those fellows from such conduct. As the Crime does not properly come under Military Law, I beg leave to suggest a mode to your Excellency, which, in my opinion, is the most likely to put an entire stop to such pernicious practices. If Council will think proper to order all such put in Jail, & direct the State Attorney to prosecute them for perjury, & the law rigorously executed as the crime may deserve—I think a few examples of Croping, Pilory, &ca., with a publication of the reason for such punishment over the State, will have a good effect. However as this is only opinion, & I thought it my duty to give Council information on the subject, I submit the matter to your Excellency. Gavin Miller, a British Prisoner of War, is under this predicament —was Enlisted by Lieutenant Jones of the 2d Regiment. I have ordered him into close confinement in Carlisle Jail till your Excellency's pleasure respecting him shall be made known to the Commanding Officer at this Post.

I proceed immediately on my way to Fort Pitt.

I have the honor to be
with great respect Sir,
Your Excellency's most
obedient Humble servant,
WM. IRVINE.

Directed,
His Excellency Willm. Moore Esqr., President of Penna.

Wm. Bradford, Jr., Atty. Genl., to Committee of Assembly, 1782.

March 18, 1782.

Gentlemen,

I am informed the fee bill presented to the General Assembly has been referred to your consideration, and I beg leave to state to you a few observations upon it so far as it relates to the fees of the Attorney General.

These I believe even at their first institution were considerably lower than those allowed to Attornies General in other governments. It appeared by the votes of the former Assemblies of Pennsylvania, that they were considered as inadequate; and the salaries allowed

the King's attorney were not granted in consideration of any services to be done by him to the province, but merely to compensate for the deficiency of his fees. The duties of his office did not extend beyond public prosecutions, and in any other business he was retained in his professional & not in his official character.

If then, these fees were considered as inadequate at that early period when money was scarce & subsistance cheap, it is needless to say, that the change of circumstances must point out the propriety of their being now increased.

These observations are principally made in behalf of those Gentlemen who prosecute the pleas of the state in those Counties where I cannot attend. The public business of my office (which has extended its circle far beyond criminal prosecutions,) presses so much upon me as to confine me in a great measure to the city, and it is seldom I can visit the Counties except with the Judges on the Circuit. I am therefore under the necessity of deputing others to prosecute for me in the Quarter sessions, and I wish to have it in my power to engage Gentlemen to discharge this duty, whose abilities & integrity will do justice to the state and give satisfaction to the Counties where they prosecute. This will easily be done if the fees are rendered proportionable to the trouble, and in any degree compensatory for their exclusion from the benefits arising from being concerned for the Defendants in indictments. At present the Gentlemen who officiate for me, in some measure, consider their services as a personal favour, and I cannot but consider myself as under obligations to any Gentlemen of merit who will accept the appointment.

I would therefore beg leave to suggest the propriety of putting the fees of this office upon the same footing with those of the attornies in civil actions, at least with what those fees formerly were. Perhaps it would be right to distinguish between cases of Trial and those cases where the defendant submits or pleads guilty. In the latter case the present fees might be continued, in the former encreased. The trouble which attends a lengthy trial (especially in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, or even the County court) would be slightly rewarded even by the proposed fees. And I would beg leave to add, that from the poverty of the Defendants many of the fees are unavoidably lost. For my own part I am under the necessity of remitting many that are due to me, & I presume the case is the same with the gentlemen who prosecute in the Counties. Humanity forbids that a prisoner who is unable to pay his fees should for that reason alone be confined in Gaol.

These few observations I submit to the Committee, & hope that they will be sufficient to show the propriety of this application and to induce them to report favorably on the subject.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen, your most obed. & very hum. servt.

WM. BRADFORD Jun.

Return of Non-Commissioned Officers, &c., serving in the Southern Army, 1782.

Return of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates of the State of Pennsylvania, now actually Serving in the Southern Army; specifying the Number whose time of inlistment will expire on or before the first day of March, 1782, and between the first of March and the last of November, in the same year.

	Total number in service.						
	Serj. Majors.	Q. M. Serjeants.	Drum Majors.	Fife Majors.	Serjeants.	Drums & Fifes.	Rank & File.
South Carolina, Camp at Pon-Pon, 31 January, 1782.	3	3	3	2	78	40	1020

N. B. A part of Col. Craig's Battallion are only inlisted to the first of January, 1783. The troops serving in the first Reg^t of Cavalry, Col. Moylan's Regiment, and the Artillery Companies detached under General Wayne, to Georgia, are not included.

A true Copy of Col. William's return.

EDW. HAND, A. Gl.

Indorsed,

March 19, 1782.

Joseph Reed to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Sir,

Upon my return last Evening from Gloucester Court I received your Excell^y Order on the Treasurer. The Council may depend on my best Services to the State on the Occasion. There are some Papers among those of the council particularly a Lease to Col. Patton—a Petition or Letter from Will'm Allen Esq., deceased, a minute of Council made thereon, also an Affidavit by Mr. Chew. It will be necessary for the secretary to collect these together. I apprehend I am so well acquainted with all other Circumstances that we shall not have Occasion to trouble the Council farther. It may perhaps be necessary for Jemmy Tremble to attend the Tryal to prove the usage of Council of calling for Affidavits by Petitioners in support of their Claims when they

mean to have a Sale postponed & that when Mr. Allen was called upon for such an Affidavit he declined it or at least never presented one.

I am with much Regard
& Respect your Excell'y
Obed. Hble. Serv't
JOS. REED.

Market Street, March 20, 1782.

Directed,

To his Excell'y The Presid't of the State.

PRES. OF CONGRESS TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

(Circular.)

Sir,

I have the Honor to enclose your Excellency a Proclamation of Congress, dated the 19th instant, and am, with great respect,
your obedient
& very humble Serv't
JOHN HANSON,
Presid't.

Philadelphia, 20th March, 1782.

Directed,

To His Excellency The President of Pennsylvania.

GOV. BENJ. HARRISON, OF VIRGA., TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Virg^a, In Council,
March 22d, 1782.

Sir,

The Executive of this State agree to your proposal of running a temporary Line between this State and your's* to serve as a boundary till the States shall be in more tranquility and better circumstances to encounter the expence that will attend the final settlement of it, and have no Doubt but the assembly at its meeting in May will concur with them in the measure. A commissioner shall be appointed to meet yours at the time fixed on with explicit orders to proceed on the business, it not being the practice of the executive of this State to act with Duplicity on any occasion. Why Mr. Madison did not proceed in the business; I do not certainly know,

* See page 506.

tho' I have heard he was prevented by some of the inhabitants of that country. The Commissioner will be directed to begin the Line at the extremety of the Line betwixt your State and that of Maryland to which I suppose you can have no objections.

I have the honor to be
with great regard
your most obedient and
most humble Servant,
BENJ. HARRISON.

Directed,
On public Service,
To his Excellency William Moore, President of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PENNA. COMMISSIONER, 1782.

You are hereby Directed to be on the 10th of June, at the extremity of Mason's & Dixon's Line where you'll meet the Commissioners from Virginia, & then continue the said Line 23 Miles West, then run a Meridian Line till it Strikes the Ohio, shou'd the Commissioner from Virginia not Attend at the time & place, or refuse to perform with you the running of ye above Lines, you'll proceed yourself.*

PRES. MOORE TO HON. JAMES SEARLE, 1782.

In Council,
Philad^a, March 27, 1782.

Sir,

Your letters, dated Paris, 12th Dec^r, 1781, & Jan'y 6th, 1782, have been received, read in Council, & communicated to a Committee of the General Assembly.

Captains Truxton & Angus are arrived, & as we have no account of any arms brought by them on account of the State, I suppose they have not been forwarded. If they should not be actually shipped before this reaches you, the Council & Committe of General Assembly are of opinion it will not be proper to ship them, and you will please to govern yourself accordingly.† All thoughts of obtaining supplies from abroad, on the Credit of the State, are at present wholly laid aside, which renders it unnecessary for you to continue your attention to that object.

The Council have no doubt of your faithful exertions to effect the business on which you went to Europe, acknowledge your Zeal in the public service, and the spirit of patriotism which they are sensi-

* There is no date or indorsement to this.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 242.

ble has actuated you on all occasions, and they lament the losses and misfortunes which have borne so hard upon you. Be assured, sir, that your name will be respected for the disinterested part which you have acted, and the Council will be happy to render you their acknowledgements in a way the most agreeable to you.

There does not appear to be a necessity for your making a voyage to this State, as your accounts cannot need any explanations but such as may be readily transmitted here. And as to the time which you propose as the date of your declining your publick character, there cannot be, on the part of the state, any objections to it.

We sincerely wish you success in your mercantile plan; and hope you will meet with that encouragement & support in it, which your abilities and integrity entitle you to.

And as to the loss which you have sustained by the death of your amiable wife, the Council sincerely sympathize with you therein; but it is one of those cases in which the great Governor of the Universe is entitled to exercise *his sovereign will*, and it is at once our duty and greatest consolation, as you justly express it, to bow the head in obedience to him.

I am, with sincere & affectionate esteem, sir,

Your most obedient, humble servt.

Samuel Caldwell and Dr. Shiell to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philadª, 27th March, 1782.

Honourable Sir,

We herewith return your Excellency the Draught of Hog Island, which you were so good as to Indulge us with in Order to consider of the division proposed.

We have it now under consideration, and shall, in a day or two, wait upon your Excellency & the Supreme Executive Council for the Purpose of obtaining a Deed. In the Interim, we have to request that the Deed for the Remaining part of the Island may not be granted till ours is first obtained, as our part was first purchased, & the Terms, on our part, fully complied with; and we apprehend our Title should first be Secured; otherwise, we may be involved in disputes that we wish to avoid, & which we are Confident your Excellency & the Council will discourage.

Your Excellency's mo. Obt. Servts,

SAM. CALDWELL,
H. N. SHIELL.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Return of Pennsylvania Troops at Fort Pitt, 1782.

1 Lieut. Colonel.
2 Captains.
2 Lieutenants.
1 Ensign.
1 Adjutant. }
1 Quarter Master. }
1 Serjeant Major.
1 Quarter Master Serjeant.
9 Serjeants.
8 Drums and Fifes.
104 Rank and file.

Indorsed,—April 1, 1782.

Resolution of Congress, 1782.

In Congress, April 1st, 1782.

Resolved,

That Lieut. Colonel Carrington* be informed that the Seventh Article of the Confederation having reserved to the States the right of appointing all officers of and under the Rank of Colonels for the Forces respectively raised by them, and of filling up all vacancies of such officers, Congress cannot appoint him to the vacancy in the Command of the 4th Regiment of Artillery raised by the State of Pennsylvania.

Petition of Owen Jones, Jr., 1782.

To the honorable the Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Subscriber requests permission to go to Elizabeth Town in the State of New Jersey.

OWEN JONES, Jr.†

Deborah Mitchell,
Anna Parish.

Philada., April 2d, 1782.

* See page 497.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 249; granted, with permission to return.

Petition of Wm. Brown from Cumberland Co., 1782.

To the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council of the state of Pennsylvania.

The memorial of William Brown of Ardmagh Township, in the County of Cumberland, on Behalf of himself and the Inhabitants of said Township, respectfully showeth :—

That the said Township of Ardmagh is, at this Time, the nearest Frontier to the Indians in that Quarter, and is quite exposed to the Incursions of the Savages, no Troops whatever being stationed among them. That the Season of the Year is now nearly come when Indian Hostilities may be expected; your memorialist therefore humbly prays that some support may be sent out to that defenceless frontier. Your memorialist scarce expects that any of the State Troops can be spared from their present Stations for this purpose, but begs leave to offer his opinion that a Company of Militia ordered up to that Quarter would at this Time answer very valuable purposes to that Frontier, in restoring some degree of Confidence to the Inhabitants, as giving them an earnest of the attention that will be paid to them. Your memorialist would further beg leave to observe that a Quantity of ammunition lodged at some proper place, to supply the Inhabitants in case of any emergency, is, in his Opinion, a measure absolutely necessary. All which Considerations are humbly submitted to the Hon'ble Council.

WM. BROWN.*

Indorsed,—April 5th, 1782. From Wm. Brown of Cumberl'd Co'y.

Hon. John Van Campen to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Lower Smithfield, the 6 April, 1782.

Honored Sir,

I am happy to inform your Excellencie, that I have found my family well, but the Back inhabitants all alarmed and flying toward the River Delaware, into forts. By the many Signs Discovered in the woods, Supposing to be Indians, this morning, it seems to be the Case that it is the Enemy, as they have taken Nicholas Shrively prisoner, near Smith's fort, as he was fothering his Cattle. Capt. Shoemaker, in less than one hour, pursued with twenty prime men. My brother this moment Came Down; Left Shoemaker about two miles in the woods, on the track very plain to be followed in the burnt woods. I am in hopes of Success; but I fear when in the mountains the Capt. and his men will Loose the Track.

I am, Sir, with very Great Esteem,

your Excellencies and the Council's

most Obedient, Humble Serv.,

JOHN VAN CAMPEN.

P. S.—The party of Indians Discovered—Six in Number.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., pp. 247, 269.

L. Weiss to Cha. Thomson, Sec'y of Congress, 1782.

Sir,

I received this afternoon a Letter of the Reverend—Nathaniel Bishop of the United Churches of the Brethren, residing at Bethlehem dated the 5th instant. He informs me that the same day a melancholy report was brought to him by one Mr Leimbach relative to a murder committed by white Men upon a Number of Christian Indians at a place called Muskingum. He continues in his Letter that the same Mr Leimbach is to proceed the next day to Philad. in order to give Congress information how he came to the knowledge of that Event, so that Congress, unless it had already a better account of the affair than he can give, might upon his Report, take some measures with respect as well of the Mischief already done as more which might be done, and thus prevent the total exterpation of a Congregation of Indians converted to the Faith of Jesus Christ and the Judgments of Almighty God against our dear Country which stands much in need of his divine Protection. The Bishop desires me to give attention to Mr Leimbachs Report (I have done it) and to direct him where he should make his addresses. I make bold Sir to address him to you and to begg the Favour that you introduce him if possible this night, with the Delegates of the State of Virginia, from whence it is said the mischief originated, and to morrow morning with Congress.

Your Humanity, Sir, gives me Confidence to use the Freedom to trouble you this day, the day set apart for the Service of Men to their God about a Cause which is most properly his own. The Tragic scenes of erecting two Butcher Houses or Sheds and killing in cold blood 95 browne or tawny sheep of Jesus Christ one by one is certainly taken notice of by the Shepherd their Creator and Redeemer.

I am with particular respect, Sir,
Your most obed. humble Servant,
L. WEISS.

Sunday, 7 April 1782.

Directed,
To Charles Thomson, Esquire, Secretary of Congress.
P Mr Frederick Leimbachs.

Charles Thomson, Sec'y of Congress, to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Sir,

The enclosed intelligence was communicated to Congress on Monday last. For your farther information respecting the channel of Intelligence I beg leave to send you a letter I received on Sunday

from Mr L. Weiss. It is the desire of Congress that your excellency and the hon^ble Council would be pleased to cause enquiry to be made into this matter.

I have the honor to be
With great respect,
your Excellency's
most obedient & most humble servt.,
CHA. THOMSON.

April 9, 1782.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Relation of Frederick Lineback, &c., 1782.

Relation of what Frederick Lineback was told by two of his Neighbours, living near Delaware River above Easton, who were jus returned from the Monaungahela:

That some time in February one hundred & sixty Men living upon Monaungahela set off on Horse back to the Muskingum, in order to destroy Three Indian Settlements of which they seemed to be sure of being the Touns of some Enemy Indians.

After coming nigh to one of the Touns, they discovered some Indians on both sides of the River Muskingum. They then conclude to divide themselves in Two parties, the one to cross the River, and the other to attack those Indians on this side—When that party got over the River, they saw one of the Indians coming up towards them. They laid themselves flat on the ground, waiting till the Indian was nigh enough, then one of them shot the Indian and broke his arm; then three of the Militia ran towards him with Tomhawks; when they were yet a little distance from him, he ask'd them, Why they fired at him, he was Minister Sheboschs (John Bulls) Son, but they took no notice of what he said but killed him on the Spot. They then surrounded the field, and took all the other Indians Prisoners. The Indians told them that they were Christians and made no resistance, when the Militia gave them to understand that they must bring them as Prisoners to Fort Pitt, they seemed to be very glad. They were ordered to prepare themselves for the Journey and to take all their Effects along with them. Accordingly they did so. They were asked how it came they had no Cattle? They answered that the small Stock that was left them had been sent to Sandusky.

In the Evening the Militia held a Council, when the Commander of the Militia told his men that he would leave it to their choice, either to carry the Indians as Prisoners to Fort Pitt, or to kill them; when they agreed that they should be killed. Of this Resolution of the Council they gave notice to the Indians by two Messen-

gers, who told them, that, as they had said, they were Christians, they would give them time this night, to prepare themselves accordingly. Hereupon the Women met together and sung Hymns & Psalms all Night, and so did likewise the Men, and kept on singing as long as there were three alive.

In the morning the Militia chose Two houses, which they called the Slaughter Houses, and then fetch'd the Indians two or three at a time with Ropes about their Necks and dragged them into the Slaughter houses where they knocked them down; then they set these Two houses on Fire, as likewise all the other houses. This done, they went to the other Towns and set fire to the Houses, took their plunder and returned to the Monatangahela, where they kept a Vendue among themselves.

Before these Informants came away, it was agreed, that 600 men should meet on the 18th of March, to go to Sandusky which is about 100 Miles from the Muskingum.

Extract of a Letter from Mr John Etwine dated Litiz 31st March, 1782.

"It is reported from Lancaster that 160 Militia men, from the 'Ohio have destroyed Two Delaware Indian Towns, have kill'd 95 'Indians.' There were 600 Men ready to make another tour further 'up the Country."

Extract of a Letter from Mr George Niser dated York Town April 4th, 1782.

I have seen a Letter wrote by a Woman at Pittsburgh dated the 21st March which contains these particulars. "The Militia have kill'd 99 of the Moravian Indians Viz. 33 Men and 66 Women and Children."

In another Letter from the same of the 5th April.

The Moravian Indian Congregation at Sandusky is butchered, as it is reported by the *Scotch*. They came and told them, they must prepare directly for Death. The Indians requested but an hours Time for this Purpose, which was granted. They went to their Meeting house to join in Prayers to the Lord. After the hour had passed, they fell upon them and butcher'd all of them in cold Blood, *in the meeting house* and then set fire to the House.

COUNCIL TO BRIG. GEN. WM. IRVINE, 1782.

In Council,
Philad^a, April 13th, 1782.

Sir,

The Council have received information, thro' various channels, that a party of Militia have killed a number of Indians, at or near Muskingham, and that a certain Mr. Bull was killed at the same time. The Council being desirous of receiving full information on a subject of such importance, request you will obtain and transmit to them the facts relative thereto authenticated in the clearest manner.

Atty. General and others to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philada., April 15, 1782.

Sir,

The Council employed in Behalf of the State on the Connecticut Claim having conferr'd together, are of Opinion & take the Liberty to recommend to your Excell^y & the Hon. Council the Appointment of some Person as a Sollicitor or Agent, to collect the Evidence, search the Records, & do various other Things essential to the Management of the s^d Dispute which the Council will not have Time & Opp^y to do.* A digestion of the Evidence where there are diverse Gentlemen employed will also be of much Use, & in a Cause of such Importance we would not omit any Thing conducive to its Success.

The Compliance of the Hon. Board with this Request will also oblige

your Excell^y & the Council's

Obed. Hbbl. Serv^ts,

JAMES WILSON,
Wm BRADFORD, Jun.,
JOS. REED,
JONA D. SERGEANT,†

Directed,

His Excellency, The President of the State.

Board of War to Pres. Moore, 1782.

War office, April 16th, 1782.

Sir

I beg leave to refer to your Excellency's consideration the inclosed letter from Mr. Ledlie, as also a letter from the war office to him. If you are of opinion that the Lieutenant of the county is necessarily exact in requiring a mittimus for all prisoners, I will direct Mr. Ledlie to submit to it. If you should think the measure unnecessary I will thank you for a line to the Lieutenant of the county on the subject.

I have the honor to be
with perfect esteem,
your Excellency's obed^t servant,

B. LINCOLN.

Directed,

His Excellency, President Moore.
War office.

* Henry Osbourne was appointed; Col. Res., Vol. XIII., p. 266.
† See Col. Res., Vol. XIII., pp. 123, 128, 136, 215, 266.

ANDREW LEDLIE TO BOARD OF WAR, 1782.

Sir,

From the Instructions I received from you as Assistant Secretary at War, I collected some of the Prisoners agreeable to your Orders of the 11th March ult., and am really sorry that I have so much Reason to mention I have met with so much Opposition from the Lieutenant of this County, Robert Levers, Esquire. He will not agree that any of those Prisoners should be confined but by a Mittimus from some Justice of the Peace; contrary to the express Words of your Orders to me; that no prisoners of War are in future to be at large; of which I made him acquainted and shewn him—so that the Intentions of the Hon'ble the Board of War are not so fully and effectually performed and executed as I could wish, and which I fully intended on my Part to have done, and yet still wish to do. Not only has he injured me in my Office as Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, but even my private Character. I therefore, Sir, beg that should any Matter be laid before you and the Honorable the Board of War touching my Conduct or Character, that you will be pleased to acquaint me therewith; and with any other Instructions relative to the Prisoners, as soon as possible or convenient.

Notwithstanding the Opposition, I shall exert myself, & use means to procure as many Prisoners as I can, and send them properly secured to Reading without Delay and with all convenient speed—permit me to assure you that I am

Sir, yours & the Hon'ble Board of War's
most obedient & hble Servant,
AND^w LEDLIE, D^y Commiss^y P^rs.

Easton, April 9th, 1782.

Directed,
(Public service.)
Hon'ble Board of War.

BOARD OF WAR TO AND'W LEDLIE, 1782.

(Copy.)

War office, March 11th, 1782.

Sir,

You will be pleased to collect immediately and send forward under a guard to Reading, all the British and Hessian prisoners of war which you can find in the county of Northampton. No Prisoners of War are in future to be at large, and it is therefore expected that every well affected Inhabitant of that County will chearfully assist you in the execution of this business.

I am, Sir, &c.

Col. Samuel Hunter to V. P. Potter, 1782.

Sunbury April, 17th 1782.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the ye 15 March and 4th Inst., I Received, and in the former was Glad to hear that Council had ordered a Company of militia for this County, as it would be a means of Encourageing the Inhabitants and Giveing Captain Robinsons Company an Opertunity of being oftner on scout then otherwise, but there is none of this Company arived here as yet nor no account from them,

Agreeable to your letter and the resolve of Council, Captain Robinsons head Quarters is at Fort Muncy, and I am certain he does all he can in the Rangeing way for the Good of the County, but as for doing much towards the Repaireing of the Fort its not in his Power at present, as the Enemy has made their appearance once more on our Frontiers. The 7th Inst. they took off a Woman and four Children from Wyoming, and the 14th Inst. a scout of Captain Robinsons men came on fresh tracts of Indians about a mile above Lycoming, and followed them up the Creek towards Hel Town, I have not heard from them since.

I am sorry that Council was made believe that a Number of the Inhabitants would move up to Muncy as soon as the Rangeing Company would be stationed there, and would Contribute much to their advantage, I beleive there will be no such thing as any Going to settle there this spring, so that what Ever is done must be by the Soldiers themselves, in case Mr. Wallis does not come up with a party of (Hessians as we have been told by some People to Build a Fort of stone and lime) this I would like very well, if there was a probabillity of defraying the Expence that would acrue by Erecting such a Fort, But in the meantime I give Captain Robinson orders to Repair the old Fort in the best manner he can at present for his own preservation, as I had no assurance from Council of any such Fort being Built by Mr. Wallis. Council may depend there will be as much frugality as Possible used to save Expences in what will be done at the old Fort, the ammunition is not arrived yet that you made mention of to me in your last suppose it is very much wanted in the County.

Captain Robinson Expects there will be some arms sent up for the use of his Company as they are very much wanted. He Exchanged twenty muskets in Reading when he came of from there, and he would require twenty muskets more with Bayonets and fifteen Rifles, as it would be much better this Company had Publick arms than the way they are, for Every now and then they are selling and Bartering off their Rifles because they are their own Property. I believe that account from Westmoreland is true in regard of destroying an Indian Town, but as I am informed it was the Morravians

that moved from this River, if so they fall an Easy prey and not much Honour Gained in killing Indians that would make no resistance.

I am Dear Sir,

with Esteem your most obed.

and very Humbe. Servt.

SAM. HUNTER, L. N. C.

Directed,

Honorable James Potter, Esqr., Vice President of the supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Honored by Jno. Bayers, Esqr.

PROPOSALS OF WILLIAM BROWN FOR SUPPLIES, 1782.

To the president and the supreme Executive Council of the state of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,—As you have ordered two Companys of Militia to Guard the frontiers of Cumberland County and a part of these Companys Must Ly in Bedford and the other in Northumberland Country, I will find them in Rations at the same Rate they are found in Bedford County, as I have to Carry said provisions over three Large Mountains on Horse Back I cannot do it for Less.

WM. BROWN.

April 17th, 1782.

To the Supreme Executive Council.

GEORGE WALL, JR., TO COL. JOSEPH HART, 1782.

Solebury 22d April, 1782.

Sir,

Inclosed is the Commission of Captain Kester & his resignation, in Consequence of which I have Caused the Company to be notified to Elect another Captain and Ensign (as the former Ensign George Venander hath moved away) accordingly Robert Lanen was chosen Captain and Dereck Wasel Tinbrook Ensign as you will see by the Inclosed return. You will Please to Procure them Commissions as soon as Possible or Convenient. I Pay the Money Collected for Military fines to your Son John as fast as Collected, which seems to Come very hard & slow of Late.

I make no Doubt but you have heard of the Second Robery Committed on Nicholas Hole, the Collector in Tenicum who was Down last Court, The Robers took away the Duplicate and all his

* See Col. Rec. Vol. XIII., p. 269.

Papers, and threatned him if he made any Stir or search after them as he did before, they would come back again and Kill him and burn his house as they said the Crime was equally the same; they might as well kill as not as they would be hanged for Robing & no more if they murdered.

The Collector of Taxes in Tenicum was robed a few nights ago in the same manner as above, his name is Weaver. The Villains have become very bold and Daring in their attempts. I am realy fearfull of an attack, and do not like to be from home at nights, I keep a Pretty good look out. I think we ought to have a Scout and universal search all over the County, and Disarm all the Tories, they Certainly Conceal the Robers and supply them with Guns. As soon as our Fishing Season is over, I shall Endeavour to Come Down and settle our accounts respecting the Militia fines. Abram Heed Expects you will be up soon or send for them Guns as he says they get out of order by laying still, if you will settle his account & give an order on me I will pay him.

from your friend, & humble servant,

GEO. WALL, Junr,

Directed,—To Col. Josept Hart Esqr. Lieut. B. County.

PRES. MOORE TO GOV. LIVINGSTON, OF N. J., 1782.

In Council,

Philad^a, April 23, 1782.

Sir,

By the public papers of this day, we observe, that Capt Hylars, of New Brunswick, has taken a large cutter, commanded by one White, formerly of this city; and from the circumstances which have come to our knowledge, we suppose it is a certain Capt Robert White who stands attainted with High Treason against the state of Pennsylvania. Should the person taken by Capt Hylars be the s^d Capt Robert White, the Council request you will please order him to be transmitted to this state, and delivered to William Will, Esqr, Sheriff of the city & county of Philadelphia. Upon notice from your Excellency of the time & place of delivery, the s^d sheriff will give his attendance to receive him. Your Excellency will please to point out the time and place at which you choose to deliver over Capt White, & orders shall be given to the s^d sheriff to attend to receive him.

Capt White has been an atrocious offender, and, as he is a man of address, it will be prudent & necessary to guard against an escape. Should it be most agreeable to your Excellency, an escort shall be sent into your state and receive him there.

I have the honor to be, with great regard,

Your Excellency's most obedient serv^t.*

Indorsed, 1782, April 23.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 270.

Gov. Livingston, of N. J., to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Trenton, 26 April, 1782.

Sir,

I find myself honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 22d instant, containing a request to me from the Council of your State "to order Capt. Robert White, lately captured by Capt. Haylar, & who "has been an atrocious offender in your State, to be transmitted "thither & delivered to the Sheriff of the City & County of "Philadelphia."

Your Excellency & the Council will be pleased to be assured, that no exertions of mine shall ever be wanting to aid another State in bearing persons who have committed crimes within their jurisdiction, & are afterwards found within ours; & I should think myself particularly happy in this opportunity of giving the clearest demonstration of that disposition by directing the apprehension of White; But as the Laws are fully competent to the present exigency, there is no necessity for, (and indeed there may be public offence given by,) the interference by the Executive of this State in the matter. All that is requisite is, for your Chief Justice to issue his warrant for apprehending White, & on your Sheriff's calling on our Chief Justice with such warrant, the latter will indorse it; in virtue of which your Sheriff may apprehend him in any part of this State.

I did, however, immediately on the receipt of your Excellency's Letter, dispatch an Express to Capt. Haylar to Brunswick, where I am informed he is, directing him not to send White to the Commissary of Prisoners, (as our Privateers by their Instructions are directed to do) but to secure him in the best manner possible; & if he should have been sent before my Letter reached him, to send for him back again & keep him in the securest manner he can, till farther orders.—With the greatest Esteem,

I have the honour to be
your Excellency's most
obedient and very humble Servant,
WIL. LIVINGSTON.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Purchase of Ship General Monk, 1782.

To the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania:

The Commissioners appointed to procure & equip an armament for guarding & defending the navigation of the Bay & River Delaware, beg leave to inform the Honble the Council that agreeable to

the permission granted them, they have purchased the Ship Genl. Monk,* which they intend to equip & man with all possible expedition to Cruise in Consort with the Ship Hyder Ally.

We herewith inclose a Letter from Captain Joshua Barney, dated the Twenty-first Instant off Cape May, Containing a Recommendation of Mr. Justis Stare, his first Lieutenant, to take command of one of the ships, and as we have reason to believe him a deserving officer we beg leave to recommend him as a proper Person for such Command.

When Cap. Barney was in town he seemed much inclined to go himself in the Monk, but as we are not quite certain which of the Ships he would make choice to Command, we shall take the first opportunity of knowing his Sentiments on that head.

We have received a Letter from the Wardens of the Port Dated Twenty third Instant informing us that there is a Surplus of Specie in the Treasury arising from the Tonnage on shipping of Three hundred Pounds seven shilling & ten pence that they are not in immediate want of which sum we pray The Honourable the Council will grant us an order for.

We have the Honor to inform you that we have Just received a Letter from Capt. Barney Dated Twenty second Instant acquainting us of his having Captured a small Schooner mounting one six Pound Cannon and four swivells Carrying Twenty men Commanded by one Ross.

We beg The Honourable the Council would be pleased to inform us, what name they would chuse the ship lately called the Monk, should now be called.

We are with all due respect,

The Honourable the Councils,

most obedt. servts.

JNO. PATTON,
FRANS. GURNEY,
WILLM. ALLIBONE.

Philada., 25th April, 1782.

* The Gen. Monk, was a British Ship of war of 20 nine-pounder Guns and 160 men commanded by Capt. Rodgers of the Royal navy, captured by Cap. (afterwards Commodore) Joshua Barney, in the privateer, "Hyder Ally," of 16 six-pound guns, and 110 men. The Ship Monk had 20 killed and 38 wounded, while the Hyder Ally had but 4 killed and 11 wounded. This gallant action took place in Delaware Bay, on the 8th of April 1782, and is pronounced "one of the most brilliant achievements ever recorded in the annals of Naval warfare." The Schooner mentioned above was taken in a second trip down the Bay; she was called the "Hook'em Salvey." For a very interesting account of the first action see: Register of Pennsylvania Vol. X. p. 182, her name is there said to have been changed to "Washington" and commanded by Barney. See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 263. See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 270, respecting the purchase alluded to.

Gov. Benj. Harrison to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Council Chamber, April 26th, 1782.

Sir,

I observe by the instructions inclosed in your favour of the sixth instant that the Commissioner appointed by you to run the temporary Line between this State and yours, has orders to begin where Mason & Dixon's Line ends, from which and your over looking the proposal I made of beginning at the western extremity of the Maryland Line, I conclude that you mean the ex parte Line that was run by the agent for Mr. Penn. after he had finished with Maryland, if this is the case the Executive of this State can by no means agree to it, that Line may be a just one, but it is our Duty to know that it is so, which we can only do satisfactorily, by a report from some person acting for this State and under the authority of Government. Governor Jefferson's Letter on this subject is by no means conclusive as to this point, he speaks in general terms, and we think when speaking of Mason & Dixons Line he could only mean that which was run by those Gentlemen Jointly and by authority; be this as it may, the business is now taken up anew, and as it may be some time before it can be finally adjusted, I wish to have it done in the most accurate manner that our present circumstances will admit of, that the people in that country may be eased of their fears and have some kind of certainty to which State they belong, this can only be done by the method proposed by me. I therefore hope you will come into it, and that you also postpone the time of meeting to the 10th of July which will be as soon as we can be ready after taking the Directions of the Assembly.

I have the honor to be,

with great respect Sir,

your most obedient & most humble Servant,

BENJ. HARRISON,

Directed,

On public Service.

To His Excellency William Moore, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Benjn. Harrison.

Capt. John Hughes to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Cat fish Camp, Washington Cty, May 1st, 1782.

Sir,

As Col. Marshall hath Informed me that an Express for Philad. are to Set Out to morrow, I take the opportunity to let your Excellency in Council know, that there is no Possibility of Raising

Men in this Country upon the Principles Council hath thought Proper to Order, My Officers & myself hath Been as Industrious as Circumstances could possibly admit.

I Conceive the Only Mode Would be to Class the County for Eighteen Months Men—Which would be two Campaigns—Or any other term that Council Should think Necessary—is the Sentiments of the Better Kind of people in this Country, as well as my Own.

There is many Other Reasons that hinders the Officers from proceeding in the Recruiting Service as having not Cash—Except such as are for that Service, and no provision made here for their Subsistance, that Renders them under these Disadvantages.

Please your Excellency in Council to Consider these Grievances that I have laid Down, & I make no Doubt But they will be Remedyed.

I am with Respect, your Excellency's
most Obedient & most Humble Servt,
JOHN HUGHES, Capt.
Washington Rangers.

Directed,
(Public Service.)
To His Excellency, William Moore, President in Council, Philadelphia.
By Express.

Petition of Merchants of Philadelphia, 1782.

To his Excellency, the President, & the supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Representation of the undersigned Merchants of the City of Philadelphia, respectfully sheweth:

That a Seizure of a Quantity of Sugars landed out of two Shallops from Christiana Bridge the 1st May instant,* having been made in consequence of a Law of this State imposing a Duty on the Importation of Goods for the purpose of protecting the Navigation of the Bay & River of Delaware, they are induced to believe, some from their own Knowledge, & others from the Information of Gentlemen in whose assertions they can confide, that no Fraud was intended by any of the Persons concerned in importing the Sugars, nor any design formed by them of non payment of the duties required by Law; & that the seizure unhappily arose from Inadvertence of some of the Gentlemen concerned to enter, & Ignorance of Law in the others. That the Circumstances attending the affair fully evince

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 252, 253.

that we cannot be mistaken in our opinion, having been landed out of Shallops which are employed as Packets between Christiana Bridge & this City, & unaccustomed to delay, in the open day, & there exposed in the most public manner, without any Concealm, or immediate Removal.

We therefore humbly hope that your Excellency & the honourable Council will grant a Restoration of the Property seized & Remission of the Penalties, upon payment of the duties and all charges.

Jn° Shee,
Fran° Gurney,
George Ord,
Wooddrop Sims,
Sampson Harvey,
Geo. Latimer,
Jos. Carson,
Thos. Pryor,
John Campbell,
Daniel Smith,
Charles Risk,
Thomas Irwin,
Blair McClenachan,
John Mease,
Saml. Inglis,
Dean & Purviance,
Thos. Fitzsimons,
Geo. Meade,
Dav^d Duncan,
James Crawford,
George Henry,
Saml. C. Morris,
Joseph Blewer, (1759.)
John Wharton,
Wm. Henderson,
John Taylor,
John Macpherson,
John McNachtane,
Robert Gray,
Jos. Cowperthwait,
William Graham,
James Oellers,
And^w Putoy,
Chas. Hamilton,
John Phillips,
Wm. Turnbull,
John M. Taylor,
James Ash,
Joseph C. Fisher,
Wm. Alricks.

Pres. Moore to Lt. Wm. Coates, 1782.

In Council, Philad^a, May 4th, 1782.

Sir,

On the next field days for the County of Philad^a you will please to attend at the place of rendezvous of the respective battalions of that County, and review the Militia. And make report of the condition in which you find them.

I am, Sir,

your humble servant,

Wm MOORE,
President.

Directed,
To Wm. Coates, Lieutenant of the County of Philad^a.

GEN. WASHINGTON TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Head Quarters, 4th May, 1782.

Sir,

I find myself arrived at [a] period at which I hoped to have seen the Battalions of the several States compleated to their Establishment, in conformity to the Requisitions of Congress of the 19th December last. From the Returns I have been able to obtain, of the Recruits furnished by the several States—I am very sorry to observe, that the exertions to this Time have almost totally disappointed this Expectation.

All my accounts from Europe concur in declaring, that the British King and Ministry are still determined to prosecute the War. It becomes, therefore, our decided Duty to be prepared to meet their hostile Intentions, in whatever way they are to be carried into Execution ;—to do which, our utmost Exertions are now called for.

You will suffer me, therefore, to intreat, that, if your State have any Expectations from the Military Operations of this Season, not another moment may be lost in providing for, and carrying into most effectual Execution, the full Completion of their Battalions—It is scarcely necessary to inform you, that in this Expectation all our calculations must be formed, and on this Event must rest the hopes of the ensuing Campaign.

My Intelligence of the actual aid we may expect from our Allies, is not yet so explicit as will lead me to decide absolutely on the Mode of operations for this Campaign—but were our Expectations of support from that Quarter ever so promising, yet, from the Negligence and Languor of the States, from whence our own Exertions are to spring, I am not at this Day enabled to give any assurances of our being prepared to co-operate with our allies in any great Objects equal to their Expectation or our own ability. I am sorry to acquaint your Excellency, that I have the best Authority to assure you, that the Court of France is much dissatisfied with the Want of Vigour & Exertion in the States, & with that Disposition which appears willing at least, if not desirous, to cast all the Burthen of the American War upon them. Waiving the Injustice & Impolicy of such a Temper, (which to me appears very conspicuous) how humiliating is the Idea, that our dependence for Support should rest on others beyond the point which absolute Necessity dictates—how discouraging to our Allies & how dishonorable to ourselves, must be our Want of Vigor & utmost Exertion at a Time when, if we are not wanting to ourselves, our prospects are the fairest that our Wishes could extend to.

I find from the proceedings of the several States, that their Calculations of Deficiencies, formed on application to the several Towns who furnished the Men, are greatly different from the Returns sent from the Army. I forbear mentioning many Reasons, which might

be assigned, to produce this Difference, and which, in my opinion, originate principally within the States; and will content myself with this one Observation—That should the States deceive themselves in this Respect, & fail to furnish the expected Force in the Field—they will not only cast an essential Injury upon the army but the unhappy Consequences of a failure in their Expectation from military operations, will reverberate upon themselves; whilst Recrimination can have no Effect towards alleviating our protracted misfortunes & Distress.

Altho' money matters are not within the Line of my Duty—yet as they are so intimately connected with all military operations—and being lately informed by the Financier in answer to some small Requisitions upon him, that he has not yet received one penny in money from any one State upon the Requisition of Congress for the 8,000,000 Dollars that on the contrary some of the States are devising ways to draw from him the small sums he has been able otherwise to establish, & that he is at this time barely able to feed the Army & that from hand to mouth. I cannot forbear to express my apprehensions from that Quarter, and to urge with the warmth of Zeal and Earnestness, the most pointed and effectual attention of your State to the actual Raising and collecting their proportion of the mentioned Requisitions—Upon the present Plan of non-compliance with Requisitions for men & supplies, let me seriously ask your Excellency how is it possible for us to continue the war? how is it possible to support an Army in money and Recruits? to what a wretched state must we soon be reduced? how dangerous is it to suffer our affairs to run at hazard & to depend upon contingencies? to what do the present measures tend, but to the utter Ruin of that Cause, which we have hitherto so long & nobly supported? and to crush all the fair hopes which the present moment places before us were we only to exert the power and abilities with which providence has bountifully blessed this Country.—But if the states will not impose or do not collect and apply Taxes for support of the War, the sooner we make terms the better—the longer we continue a feeble & ineffectual War, the greater will be our Distress at the Hour of submission—For my own part I am fully convinced, that without the *means of* Execution, no officer, whoever he may be, who is placed at the Head of the military Department, can be answerable for the success of any plans he may propose or agree to.

Upon this subject I will only add that from past Experience & from present Prospects, I am persuaded that if the States would furnish the supplies agreeable to the late Requisition, and would suffer the pay Cloathing and subsistance of the army to go thro' one common Channel, that two thirds of their former Expences would be saved; and many partialities, Discontents and Jealousies, which now subsist, would be removed and Cease, and an establishment of order, Regularity and Harmony in our general affairs would be experienced, which cannot arise from the present disjointed and Different Systems of Finances adopted by separate States.

While acting in my military Capacity I am sensible of the Impropriety of stepping into the Line of civil Polity—my anxiety for the general good & an earnest Desire to bring this long protracted War to a happy Issue, when I hope to retire to that peacefull state of Domestic Pleasures, from which the call of my Country has brought me to take an active Part—and to which I most ardently wish a speedy return; I hope will furnish my Excuse with your Excellency & Legislature, while I request your pardon for this Trespass.

If I should have occasion for the militia of your State, the Call will be sudden, and their movements must be rapid—otherwise great Expence will accrue—& only disgrace & Disappointment will insue. For these Reasons, I beg leave to recall your Excellency's attention to my Letter of the 5th March last,* & to pray most earnestly that every previous arrangement may be taken to facilitate their march when requested.

I have the honor to be with respect,
your Excellency's
most obedient
Humble Servt,
Gº WASHINGTON.

May 8th, 1782.

P. S. Since writing the above, I have been furnished with sundry New York and English Papers, containing the last Intelligence from Europe, with the Debates of Parliament upon several motions made respecting the American War—least your Excellency may not have been favour'd with so full a sight of these Papers as I have, I take the Liberty to mention—that I have perused these Debates with great attention and Care, with a view, if possible, to penetrate their real Design—and upon the most mature Deliberation I can bestow, I am obliged to declare it as my candid opinion, that the measure, in all its views, so far as it respects America, is merely delusory—having no serious Intention to admit our Independence upon its true Principles—but is calculated to produce a change of ministers to quiet the minds of their own people and reconcile them to a continuance of the War—while it is meant to amuse this Country with a false Idea of Peace, to draw us off from our Connection with France & to lull us into a state of security and Inactivity—which taking Place the Ministry will be left to prosecute the War in other parts of the World with greater Vigor and Effect. Your Excellency will permit me on this occasion to observe—that even if the Nation and Parliament are really in earnest to obtain peace with America, it will undoubtedly be wisdom in us to meet them with great Caution & Circumspection—and by all means to keep our arms firm in our hands, and instead of relaxing one Iota in our Exertions rather to spring forward with redoubled Vigor, that we may take the advantage of every favourable opportunity—

* See page 509.

untill our wishes are fully obtained. No Nation yet suffered in Treaty by preparing even in the moment of negotiation most vigorously for the Field.

The Industry which the Enemy are using to propagate these pacific Reports, appears to me a Circumstance very suspicious—and the Eagerness with which the people, as I am informed, are catching at them, is in my opinion, equally dangerous.

I am, &c.,

G. W.

BERNARD DOUGHERTY TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Sir,

I Beg leave to inform your Excellency that I have learned to Day that a Number of Cumberland Militia are ordered for the Garrison of Frankston, and others are appointed for different stations on the Frontiers of this County, a Quantity of Provisions will of course be wanted, your Excellency has still under your Eye the numbers of those who are already sent, and will from Time to Time have the ordering of such as may be appointed. I beg we may be enabled to furnish the necessary Supplies that may be wanted on so important and interesting an affair as the Defence of the County, the little Money we have got is almost expended, and Beef, Mutton and Pork are so scarce here that we cannot get them even for Money; but nothing can be had for Credit.

We therefore beg that your Honorable Board will please to have the Distress of our present Situation in full view, and send us what may be deemed adequate to furnish what will be wanted, and take such opportunity in sending the Money as will offer, for some Times a considerable Time elapses without a single Person passing down. Either Mr. Wood, of this Town, or Mr. Duncan, of Pitt, will afford an Opportunity by whom Money may be sent, or if any opportunity shou'd offer to send to the Standing Stone Settlement, a part might be sent there, as Provisions will be wanted at that Place, Mr. Cessney is now out endeavouring to get Provisions; If we are enabled no effort of ours shall be wanted to render effective the Supplies granted for the Defence of this Frontier.

I am, Sir, with very great respect,

your Excellency's most obed^t

and very Hble Servt,

BARNARD DOUGHERTY.

Bedford, May 7th, 1782.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council.

Favor of George Woods, Esquire, Philadelphia.

Dorsey Pentecost to President Moore, 1782.

Pittsburgh, May 8th, 1782.

Dr Sir,

I arrived at home last Thursday without any particular accident, yesterday I came to this place have had long Conference with Genl Irwin & Col. Gibson, on the subject of publick matters. Perticularly respecting the late excurtion to Kushacton, that affair is a subject of great speculation here some condemning, others applauding the measure, but the accounts are so various, that its not only Difficult, but almost, Indeed Intirely Impossible to ascertain the real Truth, no person can give Intelligence but those that were along, and notwithstanding there seems to have been some difference amongst themselves, about that business yet they will say nothing, but this far I believe may be depended on that they killed rather deliberately the Inocent with the guilty, and its likely the majority was the former, I have heard it Insinuated that about thirty or forty only of the party gave their Consent or assisted in the Catastrofy.

I hear there is great preparation making for a Desent on St Duskie to set out the 20th of this month (the former plan having failed) which will be conducted by Gentlemen of Experience & Verasity, I am Doubtfull of the men's being rais'd as those kind of Expeditions have generally failed for the want of Men, and I am further Doubtful on acct of Provisions, as great numbers will not be able to furnish themselves, and no money in the hands of any person Equal to that business.

Its said here and I believe with Truth that Sundry articles were found amongst the Indians that was taken from the Inhabitants of Washington County, and that the Indians Confessed themselves that when they set out from St Duskie Ten warriors came with them who had went into the Settlements, and that four of them were then in the Towns who had returned. If those Indians that were killed were really friends they must have been very Imprudent to return & settle at a place they knew the white people had been at & would go to again, without giving us notice, & besides to bring warriors with them who had come into the Settlements, & after murdering would return to their Towns and of course draw people after them, filled with revenge, Indignation & Sorrow for the loss of their friends, their wives & their Children.

I hope Council will be Careful to send up money to furnish rations for the guards to the articles in running the Line between this & the State of Virgs, it is a matter of such magnitude to the well being of this Country that I would wish Council would be pleas'd to pay a perticular attention to it. The militia that Genl Irwin has ordered out to the frontiers will be furnished at the Expence of the Continent, that Gentleman has made his arrangements on the fron-

tion with great Judgm^t, and I make no Doubt will do every thing in his power for their Defence.

The Indians are murdering frequently, last Friday night two men were killed on the frontiers of this County, and about a week before I got home fourteen persons were killed & Captured in Different parts, and last week some mischief was done near Hanna's Town, but have not learnt the particulars.

I have been so little Time at home that I have not recv^d any Information respecting the publick measures of the County, only that the Commissioners could do nothing about laying the Tax until I come home for the want of the supply Bill, I sent for one of the Commission and Delivered him the Law & he has ordered a meeting of the Board, and to go on with the business.

I have the hon^r to be

Dr Sir, with perfect Esteem,

your Excellencies devoted and

most Obd^t very Humb. Servt,

DORSEY PENTECOST.

Directed,

(Publick)

To His Excellency William Moore, Esq., Philadelphia.

DORSEY PENTECOST TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Pittsburgh, May 9th, 1782.

Dr Sir,

Since writing the letter that accompanys this I have had another and more particular conversation with Genl. Irwin on the Subject of the late excursion to Kushocton, and upon the whole I find that it will be Impossible to get an Impartial and fare account of that affair for although sundry persons that were in Comp^y may disapprove of the whole, or every part of the Conduct, yet from their Connection, they will not be willing, nor can they be forced to give Testimony, as it effects themselves, and the people here are greatly divided in Sentiment about it, and on Investigation may produce serious effects, and at least leave us as Ignorant as when we begon, and instead of rendering a service may produce a Confusion, and Hwill amongst the people, yet I think it necessary that Council should take some Cognizance or notice of the matter, and in such a Time as may demonstrate their disapprobation of such parts of their conduct as are Censorable, otherwise it may be alleged that Govern^t (Tacitly at least,) have Incouraged the killing of women and children, and in a proclamation of this kind it might be well, not only to recommend but to forbid that in future Excursions, that women, Children, and Infirm persons should not be killed, so Contrary to the Law of arms as well as Christianity.

I hope a mode of Proceeding something like this would produce some good Effects and perhaps soften the minds of the people for it is really no wonder that those who have lost all that is near and Dear to them go out with determined revenge, and Exterpation of all Indians.

If anything here should Contain a hint that may be approved of by Council it will give great satisfaction to

your Excellencies most obd^t

very Humb^l Servt,

DORSEY PENTECOST.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr.

Order for Military Honors to the Minister of France, 1782.*

Order for the Military Honors to be paid at the public audience given by Congress to his Excellency the Minister of France.

Cavalry, 1st Battalion of Continental Infantry.

Artillery, 2d Battalion of Continental Infantry.

The whole will parade on the Commons opposite Market street on Monday next at 9 o'clock, and be formed in one single column the right in front, march down to Front, street come up by Chesnut street and form with their right on the Gate in front of the Minister's House; on the Minister coming out, a Detachment of Horse (previously told off,) shall wheel off, of the line and form an Escort to the Minister. As the Minister passes along the line, the Troops shall salute by Corps, and on the Minister's Coach halting at the Door of the State House, his Escort will form on both sides of his Carriage, then the pieces shall wheel off of the Line into the State House yard, where they will form as will be directed, and immediately on the audience being over, they will fire a Continental salute, five minutes after the last Gun, the Navy will take up the salute.

The Minister shall be saluted again as he passes along the line, after his arrival at his Hotel, the feu de joy shall be performed, then the pieces shall resume their place in the line again.

The line will then form in Column, the right in front, march round the Ministers House, and form again on the commons where the Troops will be dismissed.

War Office, May 11th, 1782.

* In consequence of "the public audience to be there given by Congress to the Minister of France in order to receive information of the birth of a Dauphin of France." See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 281, 282, 284, 5, and this Vol., pp. 544, 547.

BERNARD DOUGHERTY TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Sir,

I beg leave to inform your Excellency that a Company of Cumberland Militia, Consisting of thirty five Men, arrived here yesterday on their way to Frankston Garrison, where they are to be joined by Capt. Boyd's Ranging Company, the People in the Frontiers of this County are mostly fled from their Habitations; also it is strongly rumoured here that depredations have been Committed in Penn's Valley, and that upwards of twenty of the Militia have fallen; as yet nothing material has happened in this County, but we are afraid a stroke will be made next Moon Light: I am under the necessity of letting your Excellency and the Hon'ble Board of Council know that I have laid out the little Money I received, and have not any more to purchase with, and that there's nothing to be had without Money, Credit has no chance, and exorbitant prices are demanded for Bacon (the only species of provisions to be had) even a shilling and fifteen pence ℔ lb. ready money, and unless such can be had it will have a dire effect on the Frontiers, as thereby the little Garrison we have will be evacuated.

Sir, it gives me pain that I am obliged to write in this stile, and so pressingly, but I am of Opinion that it is my Duty to do so, and if possible, to point out the impending Ruin the want of Money (and that immediately) will have on the Inhabitants of this County; no Endeavours of mine shall be wanting in answering the Expectations of Council, provided I am enabled to purchase the Provisions that will be wanted.

The Bearer, Mr. Armitage, will afford an opportunity of having Money sent as far as this Town, directed to the Care of Mr. Michael Cryder, who will account to me for what will be sent to him; and a good opportunity will by Mr. Duncan or Mr. Woods offer for Bedford; I am ordered by the County Lieut. to lay in two Months Provisions for one hundred and fifty Men at Frankston, exclusive of two other small Posts which are in Contemplation of being garrisoned on the Frontiers of this County, therefore your honorable Board will be greatly competent to know the sum that will be necessary. I shall not neglect to give such Intelligence as may in my way to the Honorable Board.

I am, Sir, with very great respect,

your Excellency's

most obed^t serv^t,

BARNARD DOUGHERTY.

Huntington, or the Standing [Stone] Town, May 13th, 1782.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Secy. Matlack to Justices of Gloucester, N. J., 1782.

Sir,

His Excellency the President and the Council of the State of Pennsylvania have stationed Mr. Willm. Smith at Billingsport to superintend and take care of the works & ordinance there, and it being particularly convenient that he should keep a public house, they are desirous of obtaining a licence for that purpose, and supposing you to be the persons legally authorized to recommend him to the Governor of your State, I am directed to apply to you in his behalf and request your recommendation.

The Council desirous of paying a due regard to your office, judged it most proper to pay this attention to you rather than to make a direct application to the Governor of the State for the licence desired.

Indorsed,

May 13th, 1782.

Pres. Moore to Robert Morris, Esq. 1782.

To The Hnble Robert Morris Esq.

In Council Philad. May 14 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 9th instant with the papers enclosed has been read in Council and I am happy to inform you that there is reason to hope there is in the Treasury of this State a sum of the old Continental money nearly sufficient to discharge the quota of this State, and that the Treasurer is using his utmost diligence in counting it out and paying it into the hands of Thomas Smith, Esqr., Loan officer for this State, and you may be assured that should there be a deficiency in the sums now in the Treasury immediate & effectual measures shall be taken to obtain and pay it into the said office.

I am with due regard,

Sir, your most obt. Servt.

W. M. Pres.

Secretary of Foreign Affairs to Pres Moore, 1782.

Office of foreign affairs.

Circular,

Philadelphia 14th, May 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Minister Plenipotentiary of his most Christian Majesty yesterday announced to the United States in Congress assembled at a public audience the birth of a

Dauphine of France. They were pleased to direct the communication, which I have now the Honor to make in order that your Excellency and the People over whom you preside, may partake in the joy which an event that so nearly affects the happiness of their great and generous ally cannot fail to diffuse.

I have the honor to be,

with the greatest Respect and Esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedt. humble Servant

ROB. R. LIVINGSTON.*

Directed,

His Excellency President Moore, Philadelphia.

ANSWER OF PRES. MOORE TO SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 1782.

In Council,

Philad, May 16, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 14th instant has been read in Council and the event therein communicated has afforded us the highest satisfaction and shall be communicated to the good people of Pennsylvania in order that they may partake in the joy which an event which so nearly affects the happiness of our great and generous ally.

I am, sir, with great regard,

Your most obedient Servant.

W. M. Prest.

The Honble Robert R. Livingston, Esqr., Minister for Foreign Affairs.†

DORSEY PENTECOST TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Washington County, May 18th, 1782.

Sir,

Captain Hughs Just now came to my House and Informs me that He and his Officers has recruited two men, only one of which has deserted, and that they have been very assiduous and persevering, but find it Totally out of their power to render that Service that Council would Expect. I therefore have advised Capt Hughs to repair to Council Immediately and make personal report, as Council may take such other steps as they may think proper, either to raise

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 282, 284,-5.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 284,-5.

the men or by discharging the Officers for I find it will answer no good purpose to continue them for the men will not be Raised.

I have been so exceedingly busied about my domestic affairs since my arrival that I have not been out amongst the people, and therefore cannot give Council any acct. of the publicks situation of affairs here, and must beg a respite untill after Court (which will be in abt. 3 weeks,) I shall then see the County together, and shall be able after that to Give Council a Certain if not a Satisfactory acct. of matters.

I have been told by sundry people that the Tax Law is Likely to make great disturbance Especially as the line is not run the people threaten a revolt, Complain that they are not assisted with either men or money to defend themselves agt. the savages, and yet are obliged to pay a Tax in Specie which they have not towards the general war, how True there allegations are I Cant pretend to say.

Our Commissioners have began to bussiness, & I hope it will go on, but I am told the Threatings are high, but perhaps more is said than is Intended.

I am sir, with perfect Esteem,
your Excellency most obdt. h. Sevt.
DORSEY PENTECOST.

Directed,
(Public,)
His Excellency William Moore Esq. Philadelphia.
Hon. by Capt. Hughes.

Benard Dougherty to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Bedford, May 18th, 1782.

Sir,

I have wrote to your Excellency of the 13th Inst. from the Standing Stone Town*. The purport of which was the absolute necessity, there is of Money being sent into this County immediately, for otherwise the Garrison at Frankston must inevitably be evacuated, there will be Ninety at that place on 21st, Inst. and having laid out what little Money was advanced for Provisions, not a single pound of any sort can be had without Money, and was there Provisions enough, the very Carriage (being about forty Miles over Hills and Mountains) could not be had without Money, another party of one Company is to be stationed at the Heads of Dunning's Creek, and another at Colo. Piper's, and the whole of the Provisions is to be carried. Nothing in my Power shall be wanting for the safety of the Inhabitants, if I am enabled to purchase the necessary Provisions to keep the different Garrisons together; and if your Excellency and the Honorable Board will think proper I will chearfully and heartly give up my part of any profits that may arise on

* For an interesting account of Standing Stone, see the first number of the "S. S. Banner" 1853. Also "Day's Historical Collection."

the Contracts, so as you will inable us to answer your expectations. I hope this will be done, nay I earnestly beg and pray it may be done, otherwise the Defence intended for our County will prove abortive.

On my way from the Standing Stone, I met Sundry Persons who came from the Monongohala and Washington County, all of them agree in reporting, that a party consisting of upwards of six hundred Voluntiers are going against Sanduskey and are to meet tomorrow at Mingo Bottom in order to Cross the River on their way to that place.

Those of the Militia who don't go themselves it is said Contribute towards Horses and provisions to those who go, and thereby divides the Burthen and Expence, with the Voluntiers; one of my Informants hinted as much as that there was a probability of a thousand Men going on this Expedition.

Sir I am under the necessity of mentioning to your Excellency again that unless money arrives here in Time this Country is undone.

I am Sir with the greatest Respect,
your Excellency's most obedt. Hble. Servt.
BENARD DOUGHERTY.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore Esquire President of the Supreme Executive Council Philadelphia.

Answer of Chevalier De La Luzerne to Address of Council, 1782.*

Messieurs!

Je ne puis être chargé d'un devoir plus agréable à remplir que celui de transmettre à S. M. des témoignages de la part que vous prenés à la faveur que le Ciel lui a faite en accordant un Dauphin à ses voeux et à ceux de la nation françoise. Depuis que j'ai l'avantage, de vivre parmi vous,—Messieurs, j'ai été fréquemment le témoin de l'intérêt sincère que vous aves pris à tout ce qui pouvoit toucher votre allié: Plus les deux nations se connoissent, plus elles s'aiment et s'estiment, et plus elles sentent la nécessité d'une union inaltérable: ces circonstances rendent encore plus agréables à S. M. l'expression des sentimens du Conseil de Pensylvanie, au sujet de la naissance d'un héritier de sa couronné. Le jeune prince sera un jour instruit de la joye que les Pensylvaniens ont marqué en cette occasion. Il apprendra qu'ils étoient ses amis dès son berceau et il se plaira être le leur tout le tems de sa vie.

A Philadelphie le 20 May 1782.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 284–5, for a translation of the foregoing as well as the address to which it is in reply.

Resolution of Congress, 1782.

By the United States in Congress Assembled.

May 21st, 1782.

Resolved,

That the Executives of the several States be and they are hereby authorised on information of illegal intercourse which hath taken place or shall take place between the Captains of any private Armed Vessels belonging to these States and the Enemy, or of any other mal-conduct to suspend the Commission of such Captains until the Executive shall have examined into the offence, and if upon Enquiry it shall appear that the information was well founded, they are requested to report their proceedings to the United States in Congress assembled, and in this case the Commission shall stand suspended until Congress shall have taken order thereon.

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Circular of Congress, 1782.

(Circular.)

Secretary's Office, May 23d, 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a resolution of the United States in Congress Assembled, passed the 21st, authorising the Executives of the several States in certain cases to suspend the Commissions of Captains of private Armed Vessels; And as there is reason to suspect that not only the Enemy but even some persons of doubtful Character in the States make an improper use of Commissions unduly obtained; I beg leave to call your attention to the recommendation of Congress of 10th November, 1780, a copy of which is also enclosed.

I have the honor to be

with great respect,

your most obe^t & most hum. serv^t,

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Directed,

(On public Service.)

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Secretary at War to Pres. Moore, 1782.

War office, May 24, 1782.

Sir,

The Rhode Island regiment will march next Wednesday to join the troops in the highlands—which lays me under the necessity of soliciting a guard for the prisoners in the new Jail.

I wish to make the duty as light as possible, and the service as little injurious to individuals as may be. I have therefore to propose that a guard from the militia may mount next Tuesday evening at the Guard-house, near the New Jail, to consist of one Subaltern, one Serjeant, one corporal and fifteen privates—posting five Sentries during the night. The whole guard will return at six o'clock in the morning, excepting the Corporal and three privates, who will keep one Sentry through the day in such place as the Jailor shall direct. This Guard to be continued until your Excellency is informed that it is no longer requisite.

I have the honor to be,
with perfect respect and esteem,
your Excellency's most obed^t,
humble servant,
B. LINCOLN.*

Directed,
His Excellency, President Moore.

Gov. Benj'n Harrison, of Virginia, to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Virginia, In Council, May 24th, 1782.

Sir,

I am sorry any difference should arise respecting the manner of running the boundary line between the two States, as I most earnestly wish to have it done as soon as possible, and in such a way as to give satisfaction to every person concern'd; but you must be sensible Sir, that this is not to be expected unless both parties shall know that it is justly and properly done, which this State never can do, unless it has some person to represent her thro' the whole Line. Pennsylvania you say is satisfyed, why is she so? because the line has been run and measured by her commissioner, who could have no temptation to wrong her; but surely this is not the case with us. The distance proposed from the end of the ex parte Line, for it is certainly so as to us, if taken up at the extremity of the Maryland is not sufficient, you say, to give you your degrees of Longitude; if it shall be found so, I have no objection to its going

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 290.

farther. The length of the Line from the Delaware to the end of the Maryland Line I suppose is pretty exactly known, and therefore it is an easy matter to calculate what distance is wanting to give you your whole length. However I shall trouble you no farther on the subject, as the matter is now before the Assembly and I must govern myself by their determination. If the time proposed by me does not suit you, set it to any other, that will give time to make the proper arrangements, and with the leave of the Assembly I will agree to it; but it is impossible for this State to be prepared by the 10th of June, which you will recollect was altogether fixed on by yourself.

I am, with great regard,

your Excellency's

most Obed^t h'ble serv^t,

BENJ. HARRISON.*

Directed,

(Public Service.)

His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr, President of Pennsylvania.

PRES. MOORE TO GEN. WASHINGTON, 1782.

In Council,

Philada., May 25, 1782.

Sir,

Your Excellency's letter of the 4th inst., with the Postscript of the 8th,† has been read in Council, and considered with that attention which is due to the observations of a General whose measures have on all occasions been dictated by the purest patriotism, and therefore stand in need of no Apology.

After using every means in our power, we have fallen gradually short of the number of recruits we hoped to have obtained. This has greatly distressed us, as we are fully sensible of the immense importance of a powerful army during the ensuing Campaign, and we should be happy in embracing any opportunity that could afford a reasonable hope of adding to the number of our soldiers in the field, which we, however, have very little prospect of, altho' we have made it a point to appropriate the money of the state to this as a first & great object. In this line, it only remains in our power to give your Excellency every aid which the militia of the state will afford; and we have therefore issued an order to the Militia to hold themselves in readiness to march at the shortest notice, which we expect will produce 150 horse, 250 Artillery, and between 3,000 & 4,000 infantry.

* See page 533. † See page 536.

With respect to money matters, we are happy to assure your Excellency that this Council are unanimous in a determination to use their utmost endeavours to enfore the laws passed by the state for the purpose of raising our Quota for the present year, & vigorous measures will be accordingly adopted and pursued. We have some reason to think the superintendant of Finance will do us the justice to say we have cheerfully & readily given him every aid in our power, and your Excellency may be assured that this disposition continues in its full force.

We shall at all times thank your Excellency for a free communication of your sentiments on every occasion.

I have the honor to be,

with the greatest esteem & regard,

Your Excellency's most obedt

& very humble servant.

John Pemberton and Wm. Matthews to the President and Council, 1782.

To the President & Council.

Having, by the Constraining Power of God's love influencing my Spirit, been engaged to call sinners to repentance and amendment of life, & to publish the Glad tidings of the Gospel of Peace, Life, & Salvation, through Christ Jesus, Our Blessed Lord and Saviour, and finding my mind drawn & engaged by the same divine power & love to visit my Brethren in Religious profession in Europe, as the Lord shall be pleased to open my way; I have, agreeable to the Regular, decent, & orderly way used in our Religious Society, Solidly opened my Concern to Friends here, who, after deliberate & weighty Consideration, have signified their Sympathy, Unity and Concurrence with the Religious engagement, by their Certificates. Leaving me to the Lord and the Guidance of his holy spirit, and believing the time come for me to move forward and leave my Beloved Country, my near Connections, & whatever is dear to me in this life. I Inform you hereof, & do declare, that I have no sinister View or Worldly concern to promote, but singly the honest & upright discharge of a Duty laid and enjoined on me, as I believe, by that Almighty and Holy Being who formed us for his Glory & hath a right to our service, to be Obeyed & followed in all things, for therein Consists our Peace & Happiness here & forever; and, believing the Gospel of Christ to be free, the true ministers thereof ought to be free, & not be interrupted in their Pious, Religious endeavours for the Promotion of Piety, Virtue, & Godly living. Under this Consideration, and not from a Disposition to give Offence, I dare not make the Consent of Human Authority a Condition of my Obedience to Divine requiring; yet am willing by thus making my Case known to you

to remove all Occasion of misapprehension or misrepresentation; And Recommending you, with myself, to God, & the Word of his Grace nigh in the Heart, that by attention & Obedience thereto, we may experience peace to Our minds here, & Happiness hereafter.

I remain Your Real Friend,

JOHN PEMBERTON.

Philadelphia, 5th M., 30th, 1782.

Being under the like Religious engagement of mind with my Friend John Pemberton, & expecting to join as Companion with him, I have read & Considered the foregoing representation made by him, & do concur therewith.

Wm MATTHEWS.

Indorsed,—May 30, 1782. From Jno. Pemberton and Wm Matthews. Read in Council on Friday, ye 6th of June, 1782.

Pres. Moore to Brig. Gen'l Irvine, 1782.

In Council, Philad^a, May 30, 1782.

Sir,

Your favours of the 2nd, 3rd, & 9th of the present month, with the representations made by Col. Williamson and Col. Marshall have been read in Council* and shall be immediately laid before Congress as a matter of high importance to the reputation of this State, and to the general interest and honor of the United States; we request that you will continue your enquries on this subject and transmit us such information from time to time, as may come to your knowledge tending to elucidate this dark transaction.

The proposed imigration appears to be a dangerous measure and if the circumstances which you mention respecting Mr. Johnson can be ascertained he ought to be secured as a British Emissary employed to enveigle away our Citizens, and place them in a situation which must compel them to put themselves under the protection of the British, as the only means by which they can be secured from the ravages of the indians. Such an event would afford a plausible story which the British would seize with avidity and represent at every court in Europe as an instance of submission to them on the part of America. A story which might be extremely injurious to America, and such as no man who has a due regard to his Country would give a countenance to by any act of his.

The recruiting service is of so much importance, that we cannot forbear to enquire anxiously what success you have in it, and to request you will transmit to us a return of the recruits you have obtained, as early as possible.

As to the expedition you mentioned, we can only say, we confide in your zeal & prudence to direct the force which may be in your power in the most effectual manner for covering the frontiers.

Directed,—The Hon'ble Brigadier Irvine at Fort Pitt.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 297.

WM. BRADFORD, JR., ATTY. GEN'L, TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Sir,

I have considered the case of the City Lots in possession of Mr. Miles who holds them for the use of the United States, which has been referred to my opinion by your Excellency and the Council.

I am inclined to think that the act of Assembly passed 28th Feby, 1780, does not extend to this case, and that no Lands of this Commonwealth are thereby vested in the United States. The act mentions only "the lands of *divers persons, inhabitants* of this "Commonwealth," and every part of it shows that the Lands of *private persons* was the only object in the contemplation of the Legislature. This idea seems to be confirmed by the act for selling the City Lotts, in which the wardens are enabled to dispossess every person who cannot *produce* to the Justice of the Supreme Court. "A *Patent Judgment* of Court, or *Lease* from the proprietaries"—Besides it is a known rule in the construction of Statutes "that no "act which tends to divest the Commonwealth of any perogative, "right, title or interest, shall bind the Commonwealth, unless it be "extnded to it, *by express words.*"

I conceive therefore that the usual method for recovering possession of the City Lotts may *Legally* be taken in this Case, but how far such a step, or their sale at present would be consistent with propriety, prudence & the public good, is a consideration that remains with Council.

I have the honor to be Sir,

your excellencys most hum'l Serv't

W. BRADFORD. JR.

Indorsed,—May 30, 1782.

Directed,

To His Excellency Wm. Moore, Esq., in Council.

BERNARD DOUGHERTY TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Sir,

This Day I have been honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 5th Inst., and having wrote yesterday concerning the distressed situation of our County, (tho' still I had some hopes that by Mr. Cessna some relief wou'd be afforded) I have no more to say, seeing every avenue capable of alleviating our distresses is closed.

The order Mr. Cessna has on the Treasurer stands in no stead, having not a penny.; I am the Treasurer and Mr. Cessna has no doubt informed the Honorable Board of my being so; and cou'd

likewise inform that I had no Money; and cou'd this order be paid it wou'd go but a short way where there are near two hundred red Men to victuall, I cannot go to the standing stone for the returns of the Provisions issued there, untill I obtain Money for to pay for what was received, and therefore cannot send the returns of the Issuings yet; but for the Information of Council I believe there are about ten thousand Rations already Issued, and how far one hundred and seventy-five Pounds wou'd go in payment of so much provisions, your Excellency (who is extremely well acquainted with Business,) will see at first view. Bacon (which must be had for scouting parties,) cannot be had for less than ten pence, and some will have twelve pence, (at least) thirty Miles distance from this Town, the Carriage from where it is bought, and again to the Different Stations makes this Article come high as does every other.

This goes by express hired by Colo. Piper and myself, and have been obliged to borrow as much Money as will barely carry him down and up again, untill he returns I will do every Thing in my power to keep the stations together, and if possible prevent the People from flying; I am sure I need not mention any more the necessity of our settlement, I now pray that the Express may not be detained for one single Day's delay may prove fatal to the whole county, to Col. Piper I refer for further Information, and shall give such News as are going; Captain William McCall with a scouting party of the Militia on Duty in the Invirons of this Town, set off for Frankston last Saturday, and it seems were discovered by Indians within ten Miles of that place, late in the evening of the Sunday following, our people betook themselves to the Mountain and having travelled all night, got in to that Garrison on Monday morning by break of Day, and on their return they saw where the Indians took their way into the Inhabitants, Those are thought by the most Intelligent People, to be spies belonging to a large party who may make a Descent into the Inhabitance some Time this Moon.

I am Sir,
with all due respect
your Excellency's
most obed^t^ serv^t^,
BARNARD DOUGHERTY.

June 13th, 1782.

P. S. This Express was one of the Scout with Cap. McCall, we have Confidence in him and are satisfied he will be careful in bringing up whatever Money will be sent by the Honourable Council.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council, Philadelphia.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

To his Excellency the President and Honorable, the supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

Agreeably to a vote of the Honorable House of Assembly passed on the 13th day of March last, I enclose a certified account of all the Fees received by me as Judge of the Court of Admiralty since the said 13th of March, amounting to £48 8 and I pray your Honours to grant me an Order on the Treasury for Seventy-Six Pounds, Twelve Shillings, being the Ballance of one Quarters Salary due this Day, by virtue of the said vote.

I have the Honour to be
with all due Respect
Gentlemen, your most obedient
& very humble servant,
FRA'S HOPKINSON.

Philad^a, June 13th, 1782.

Directed,—To His Excellency President Moore, in Council.

—

Fees received by the Honourable Francis Hopkinson Esquire, Judge of the Court of Admiralty of Pennsylvania.

April, 1782.			
4,	Warrant of Survey of Ship St. James, Thomas Truxon, Commander.	£1	10
22,	Warrant of Survey of Cargo saved out of the Brigantine Tristram Shandy, Capt. Williams, stranded.	1	10
"	Warrant of Survey of Cargo saved out of Schooner Nancy, Philip Brown Master, stranded.	1	10
30,	Fees on Discharge of Captain Josiah Crane	2	8
May,			
1,	Fees on Writ to settle Contribution & Average Loss on Cargo of Brig Tristram Shandy.	1	10
3,	Stipulation Josiah Hewes & al—George Gibbs, vs. the Brig two Friends, on appeal of Owners.		8
10,	Fees in the Cause of George Gibbs, vs. the Brigantine Two Friends, £13, from which deduct £8 8 to which the Judges Fees in this cause due before 13th March last, amounted and there remains a Ballance to be accounted for here of £4 12.	4	12
21,	Fees in Cause Joshua Barney vs. the Ship Monk.	20	
"	Fees in the Cause Joshua Barney, vs. the Schooner Hook 'em Snevy.	3	
June,			
6,	Fees in the Cause Roger Kean vs. Schoone Recovery.	12	
		£48	8

I do hereby certify the above to be an exact Amount of all the Fees received by the Judge of the Admiralty since the 13th Day of March last.

Philadelphia, June 13th, 1781.

JAMES READ, Register.

Wm. Scott to Pres. Moore, 1782.

York, June 15th, 1782.

Sir,

On Sunday last I received the order of Council of the 23rd May; and agreeable to the directions therein contained, have ordered one-half of the light Horse and four Classes of the Militia of York county to hold themselves in readiness to march at the shortest notice.

I have also taken an account of the Publick Arms at this place and find sixty-eight musquets fit for service; & thirty-eight unfit; which I have ordered to be immediately repaired, and the Gun-smiths inform me that they will be all finished in a few days.

I herewith send the Proceedings of a Court Marshall for the tryal of Sundrie officers of the Militia who were charged with divers offences. Requesting your Excellencys opinion of said Proceeding and if aproved of that Council would pleas to inform us so that the Judgment of the said Court may be executed.

I am sir, with due respect,
your Excellency's
most Obedient humble servt.
Wm SCOTT.

Directed,
His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President in Council.

Dorsey Pentecost to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Washington County, June 17th, 1782.

Dr Sir,

By a person who is now here, on his way to the head of Elk, I have Just time to tell you that on the 25th of last month 478, some say 488 men, mounted on Horses, set out under the Command of Col. Crawford, for St. Duskie, they were discovered at the Muskingum, & from there, all the way out, Spies was keep on them; the St. Duskie people collected the Shawnese & the Light dragoons from the British posts, between St. Duskie and the post at De Trouit, they attacked our people in the plains of St. Duskie, near the St. Duskie River, on Tuesday was a week last, the battle continued two days, the first day was very close and hot work, the second day

was at long shot only. On the night of the 2d day our people retreated, & the Indians broke in on them in the retreat & routed them; however, about two Hundred stuck together & brought off all the wounded, except three, which was left on the ground. The next day the Indians attacked our people in the reare, but was repulsed with Considerable Loss on their side; they then pursued their retreat with Success & unmolested, to the Ohio. I met the men at the Mingo Bottom last Wednesday, about thirty-five miles from my Hou^se, & Collected the Information I send you.

There is about 20 wounded (few dangerous) and about half that Number killed, there is a good many missing, amongst which is Col. Crawford, and a number of other valuable men, but as the Scattered party's are Coming in daily, I have Hopes of them. As the people was much Confused when I met them, I could not get that Information requisite, what little I got was from Maj. Ross, Aid De Campt to General Irwin, & who went Aid to Col. Crawford, & I hope the General will give you a particular account, as he will receive it from the Major. I am told that the Indians were much superior to our people, and that in the Engagement they Suffered greatly, and that Col. Crawford Strongly recommended to return, before they got to the Town, alleging that our people were too weak, as the Indians had Early Intelligence of their Coming, but was overruled By the rest of the Officers.

I was told last Night by a Gen. from Beason Town that Mr. Mc Lean was not met by a Commissioner from Virg^a to run the Line, and that he was not suffered to proceed by himself; a Large party had collected to oppose him. Mr. McLean lives a great distance from me so that I don't expect to see him soon, but hope he will give Council as Early and as true a state of Business as possible.

I hear great murmurings about the Tax & many proceeds to threats, our Situation here is truly Critical & Alarming, and I am, sorry I have not better news to Communicate.

I will thank your Excellency for the News to the Eastward, when oppertunity serves, and have the hon^r to be, with perfect Esteem,

Y^r Excel^y most ob^t & very H. Serv.,

DORSEY PENTECOST.

His Excell^y, Wm Moore, Esq.

Pres. Moore to Bernard Dougherty, 1782.

In Council,

Philad^a, June 18, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 13th instant* came to hand and was this day read in Council.

The Council advert to the close of the first paragraph, where you observe that you "have no more to say, seeing every avenue capable

* See page 553.

"of alleviating your distress is closed," and as it may be construed an indirect charge of some neglect on the part of the Council whereby those avenues had been closed, they think it necessary and proper to remind you, that so early as November last the Council expressed to the General Assembly, of which you have the honor to be a member, the pain they felt for the sufferings of the distressed families exposed on the frontiers, and the confidence they had that the house would provide properly for them. You know the situation in which the business was left by the house, and you have been informed of the measures taken by the Council to render effectual the means provided by the General Assembly for the defence of the frontiers, and that those measures had failed of any good effect. We therefore think you cannot really have the most distant idea of any neglect on the part of the Council: You know the Council cannot create money. Far from unconcern or neglect, the Council have even exceeded strict propriety in appropriating monies intended for other purposes to their defence, and drawn an order on you as treasurer of the county, for that purpose. You inform us that you have not a penny: the Council can only lament that your county have so long omitted to raise any money, which, however, they conceive you must be sensible is one great cause of your distresses, so far as they arise from the want of money, and we would fain hope that the county will from thence be induced immediately to exert itself in raising their taxes, and thereby enable the Council to apply it in such manner as the exigencies of the times may require. We cannot say less on the present occasion than this, *that unless monies are raised, the State cannot be defended.*

As to sending you further supplies of money, other than according to contract, upon your producing the monthly returns duly certified, you have not, we conceive, *a right* to demand it. Yet the Council, from their anxiety for the safety of the frontiers, gave you the order on the county treasury, and they have now such strong feelings for the distresses of those exposed citizens, as to send herewith an order on the treasurer of the County of Berks for the sum of one thousand pounds, which is the most that is in the power of Council to do, as the State treasury is actually entirely empty, and but little prospect of money coming in sufficient to defray the unavoidable expences of government.

You will see by the public papers and also from a notice to be sent you by the sheriff of your county, that the Council have been under the necessity of calling the General Assembly to meet here on the first of August, occasioned by our want of money.*

From this state of things you will be convinced that you must be very cautious in issuing a ration beyond what is absolutely necessary. Indeed we are surprised to hear of so great a number of rations being issued. The circumstance of McCall's party retiring on

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 307-8.

seeing a number of Indians, we are willing to suppose was justified by circumstances which you have not mentioned, and that a proper spirit of bravery will be shewn by a vigorous attack on the savages wherever they may be found: For in this spirit we are convinced, the safety of the frontiers must greatly depend, and by which alone their parties can be justly chastised.

The Vice President has laid before the board your letter to him dated June 3rd, and it is the opinion of Council that they have nothing to do with the rations or pay of the Light horse employed in escorting provisions—and as to the kinds of rations, they are expressed in the contract, and the Council cannot know of any other—the proper officers expressed in the contract must sign the returns—no fatigue liquor can be allowed. As to the wheat & rye you mention, it seems to be best for you to obtain it, and the expence attending the carriage will be considered hereafter and settled on fair & equitable principles, judging from the circumstances of the case—the provisions you have agreed to issue clear of all expence to the State, and therefore the issuing Commissary cannot be allowed rations from the State.

I am Sir, with due regard,

your most obedient servant.

Note.—This letter will be handed to your express this evening, agreeably to your desire of his being despatched as soon as possible.

Directed,

To Bernard Dougherty, Esqr.

Minutes of a Meeting in Westmoreland County, 1782.

Agreeable to Publick notice given by Coll. Hays to the Principal Inhabitants of the County of Westmoreland to meet at Capt John McClellen's, on the 18th Day of June, 1781.

And Whereas there was a number of the Principal people met on sd Day, and unanimously chose John Proctor, John Pomroy, Charles Cambell, Saml. Moorhead, James Barr, Charles Foreman, Isaac Mason, James Smith and Hugh Martain, a Committee to Enter into resolves for the Defence of our frontiers, as they were informed by Christ Hays, Esqr., that their proceedings would be approvd of by Council.

1st Resolvd, that a Campaign be carried on with Genl. Clark.

2d Resolvd, that Genl. Clark be furnished with 300 men out of Pomroy's, Beard's and Davises Battalion.

3dly, Resolved, that Coll. Archd Lochry gives orders to sd Colls. to raise their quota by Volunteers or Draught.

4thly, Reselv^d, that £6 be advanced to every volluntier that marches under the command of Genl. Clark on the propos^d Campaign.

5th, And for the further Incouragement of Voluntiers, that grain be raised by subscription by the Different Companies.

6thly, that Coll. Lochry concil with the Officers of Virginia respecting the manner of Draughting those that associate in that State and others.

7th, Resolved, that Coll. Lochry meet Genl. Clark and other officers, and Coll. Crawford, on the 23^d Inst., to confer with them the day of Rendezvouse.

Sign^d by or^dr of Committee,
JOHN PROCTOR, Pres^t.*

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philadelphia, June 19th, 1782.

Sir,

Inclosed your Excellency will receive an act of Congress of this date, requesting the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland to pursue the most likely measure for recovering the mail, of which the southern post was robbed on Sunday, the 16th, within five miles of Harford, in the State of Maryland.

With sentiments of esteem & regard,
I have the honor to be
your Excellency's most h'ble serv^t,
JOHN HANSON, Presid^t†

Directed,
His Excellency, President of the State of Pensylvania.

Resolution of Congress, 1782.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

June 19th, 1782.

On the report of the Committee to whom was referred a letter of the 17th from E. Hazard, Post Master General, informing that the southern post was robbed of his mail on Sunday, the 16th, within five miles of Harford, in the State of Maryland.

* This paper should have been printed on page 215—being connected with the unfortunate expedition of Genl. Clark; see page 458.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 311—proclamation, &c.

Resolved, That the Executives of the States of New Jersey, Pensylvania, Delaware and Maryland, be and they are hereby requested to pursue the most likely measures by offering proper rewards, at the expence of the United States & otherwise, for recovering the mail and bringing the robbers to due punishment.

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.

Col. Richard Butler to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Carlisle, 21st June, 1782.

Sir,

I find myself under the necessity of troubling your Excellency & council in behalf of some soldiers who were prisoners of war, & some in other circumstances such as an furlough, &c., at the time of the meeting of the Penns^a line & have since gain^d and claim the nine pounds gratuity allow^d by the State to the retained soldiers.

There are several of these men who make almost daily application & I am certain are equally intitled to it with those who rec^d it, but have it not in my power to sattisfy them therefore take the liberty to trouble your Excellency & council on the subject in full hope you will give proper order on the case & advise me how I am to obtain the money for these people.

I also take the liberty to mention to your Excellency that a number of the officers & soldiers (who have not speculated on their Certificates but had confidence in the justice & hon^r of the State & still retain them,) request me to apply to your Excellency & council for directions what way they are to apply for the Interest due on their certificates, shall hope y^r Excellency's ans^r p^r bearer as soon as possible as the Sum *though small* will give them great relief. I am Sir with the greatest respect

your Excellency's most obedt. and Hbl. st.

RICH'D BUTLER, Col. 5th P. R.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, Presd^t of ye State of Penns^a in Council, Philada.

Hon'd by Captn. Christy.

Pres. of Congress to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Circular.

Philadelphia, 24th June, 1782.

Sir,

Your Excellency will receive enclosed herewith a copy of an Act of Congress of the 21st inst. recommending to the several States to adopt the most efficacious measures for suppressing all traffic and illicit intercourse with the enemies of the United States.

The injurious consequences, which must necessarily result from the continuance of such an infamous practice, are manifest to every disinterested Citizen, and so seriously affect our prosperity and welfare as to require the immediate interposition and unremitted attention of your Excellency and the Legislature of your State.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect Sir.
your Excellency's
obed. & very humb. Sert.,
JOHN HANSON, Presidt.*

Directed,
His Excellency, The President of Pennsylvania.

Gov. Harrison of Virginia to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Virg^a Council chamber, June 29th, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to inclose you a resolution of the Assembly of this state directing the running a temporary boundary line between this state and yours. I am ready to comply with the contents of it, at any time you please, allowing me a sufficiency to give the necessary orders for guards, &c^a., the most proper time I am inform'd will be in Octr or Novr you'l please to let me knew your desires on this subject as soon as possible, and proper orders shall be given. I wrote you to this effect the 8th of this month, as I have rec^d no answer, I suppose the letter was carried off when the mail was robbed.

I have the honor to be
with great respect your Excellency's
most obedt. Humble sert.,
BENJ. HARRISON.

Resolution of House of Delegates of Virginia, 1782

In the House of Delegates,
Saturday the 1st of June, 1782.

Resolved, that the Governor be empowered and required to appoint a Surveyor who shall with such person or persons as may be appointed by the State of Pennsylvania extend Mason & Dixon's Line from the western termination thereof 23 miles due west & mark the same & from thence to run and mark a meridian Line to

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII, p. 315.

the Ohio river to answer the purpose of a temporary boundary and that the Governor do order out such a number of the Militia as may be necessary for a Guard during the time the said Surveyor shall be running and marking the said line.

Teste,

JOHN BECKLEY, C. H. D.

1782, June 6th.
Agreed to by the Senate.
Will. Drew, C. S.

Hon. Joseph Reed to Henry Osburne, 1782.

Tuesday Morn. June 25th, 1782.

Sir,

I have just received your Favour. The transient view I had of the Queries proposed by the Delegates & which I returned to Mr. Bradford does not enable me perfectly to recollect them. But I think they imparted an Opinion that we ought not to press for an immediate Procedure. From the Conversation I had with some Members of Congress I find they are very averse to nominating Men & think it will be productive of greater delay than to assign a day sufficient to give Notice to Connecticut to add to their appointment or send back Mr. Root. Under these Circumstances (& with the approbation of the Council) perhaps it may be advisable to assign such a peremptory day, say at 2 or 3 Weeks Distance, as may gratify Congress & at the same Time remove all Pretence on the Part of Connecticut. But I shall acquiesce with the opinion of my Colleagues if they think we ought to press it as upon the Footing of a non appearance.

I am Sir with much Regard.

Your obed. H'bble Serv't.

JOS. REED.

P. S. If I recollect right there were some other Matters in the Paper from the Delegates worthy of our attention.

Directed,

Henry Osburne, Esq.

Thomas Barclay to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Sir,

Before my departure from America I had some Conversation with his Excellency Mr Read on the subject of a Loan for the State of Pennsylvania when I informed him that I would at all times have the greatest pleasure in being usefull to that State. In Consequence of this Conversation, I some time ago applied to Messrs Nicholas &

Jacob Van Staphorst of this City, who I thought were as fit persons as any here to Negotiate a Transaction of this kind, and I desired them to give me their opinion in writing whether such a loan was practicable and the Terms upon which it might be executed. Their answer was, that they could give me no better Information than what was Contained in two Letters which they had written to Mr. Searle,* and Copies of those two letters they put into my hands in order that they might be Communicated to you in case of any accident happening to Mr Searle.

I beg leave to refer you to them, and to renew my wishes of being serviceable to the State of Pennsylvania, if you should have occasion for my assistance I beg you will Command me, and every thing in my power shall be done here by letter, or in person, as will appear most necessary, and either as a principal in the Business or in aiding and assisting any person you Employ.

Mr Searle happened to be here at a time when the negotiation of a loan was absolutely impracticable. At present I have some doubts whether it would be very easy to do it, but on the whole I incline to think some thing might be Effected.

Mr. Jay was at Bordeaux the 15th Instant on his way to Paris.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your most obedient

and most humble servant.

THO. BARCLAY.

Amsterdam, 27th June, 1782.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esq., President of the State of Pensylvania.

Alexander McClean to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Coll. Cooks, on my way from Pittsburgh, 27th June, 1782.

Sir,

To my great Mortification, I am lead to inform you, that after every effort which prudence might dictate, I am again prevented from Running the Line. The Circumstances, I presume, you will be anxious to know;—they are as follows, Viz.: Shortly after my Return from Philadelphia, an expedition was formed against Sandusky by the Volunteers of both Counties, which drew off a great Number of the Militia and Arms.

The Situation of Washington County was very distressing to appearance. I thought it not prudent to call any part of the Guard from thence, altho' Impowered so to do. The Lieut. of the County of Westmoreland furnished me with a guard of one hundred and upward, but had not Arms sufficient to supply them; about Seventy were

* Not found.

armed. We proceeded to the Mouth of Dunkard Creek. where our Stores were laid in on the tenth day of June, and were preparing to Cross the River that Night, when a party of about thirty horsemen, Armed, appeared on the opposite side of the River, Damning us to come over, and threat'ning us to a great Degree; and several more were seen by our Bullock Guard, which we had sent over the River, one of which asked them if they would Surrender to be taken as prisoners, with other Language of menacing; and hearing of a great Number more who were on their way to their assistance, We held a Council, the Result of which was, to appoint a Committee to confer with them on the Causes of their opposition: the result of said Conference you will see enclosed. This Mob, or Banditti of Villains, are greatly increased since the supply Bill has been published amongst them, the evil Consequences of which, I am inform'd, has been industriously portrayed by a Gentleman lately admitted to some of the honours of this State; however it may be, it is now become common with us, which, I doubt not, in due time will be laid before you. I could wish to be understood, yet am desirous of being tender in matters of such Moment as that of Character. In short, the Cry against Taxes in Specie is general, and in any Mode, by a Number of those who formerly adhered to Virginia, and they think the Running of the Line will be a prelude to, and increase the power of Collecting them; Together with the Idea of a New State, which is artfully and industriously conveyed (under Coverture) by some of the Friends of that State, as the only expedient to prevent the Running of the Line. I have also to inform you, that I have the most finished assurance, that they have not the least Desire to Settle the Line in any equitable manner, for the Instructions of their Commissioners (if they have appointed any,) will doubtless direct them to begin at the End of Maryland, which is not yet ascertained, neither can it be without the concurrence of that State, which I am fully persuaded was thrown in as a barrier to keep the Evil day the further off, as I fell into Company with a person of great Consequence in that State, on my Way from Philadelphia, who was big with the propriety of it, and Quoted a Gentleman of this Country as the Author of it; Yet it would be out of Character to say, that the Executive of Virginia, who are so tender of Duplicity, on any occasion, should Wrap their Councils in Darkened Language. I think it would be much to their honour and the Interest of this State, as well as those United, if their Actions could be brought to Correspond with their Declarations. Coll° Hayes, who was present on Committee, was Zealous to proceed against all opposition; but all to no purpose, other than to enrage the Mob Still more; they proceeded to dare us to trial of their Resolution and intention. I have just now been with General Irwin, who is well disposed to render every Service in his power, but as a Continental Officer he cannot interfere without instructions for that purpose. In short, every measure has been taken that might be thought prudent; but to no purpose;

there obstinacy is such, that they never will Submit until destruction overtakes them.

I have therefore to Request you will devise some mode that it may be accomplished speedily, as the Enemies of this State are daily encreasing and I find it is out of my power, unless a Commissioner from Virginia should appear, to proceed without open War, which, if you are determined upon, you'll please to give me instructions agreeably, together with the Necessary Powers.—I am just now informed that a meeting of some of the former Subjects of Virginia has been lately Requested, to choose Officers to Resume the Government in this place, the Result of which I am not able to inform you.

I am, Sir, with great Respect,
your most Obedient
and Very Humble Sert,
ALEXANDER McLEAN.

Wm Moore, Esqr.

MINUTES ACCOMPANYING THE PRECEDING, 1782.

Mouth of Dunkard Creek, June 10th, 1782.

At a meeting of the Commissioners on the Part of Pennsylvania, the 10th Day of June, one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Two.

Present, Alexander McClean, Esqr, } Commrs for Running the
& Samuel McClean, Assistt Surveyor, } Line.

With the Several Drafts of the Militia of the 3d & 4th Battalions of Westmoreland County, under the Command of Col. Benjamin Davis, &c.

When a number of the Inhabitants of Washington County, holding themselves yet under the Jurisdiction of the State of Virginia, appeared in Opposition to us under Arms. And as the meeting of Parties in Such Cases, Inraged with Passion, are frequently attended Evil Consequences, it was thought Proper to appoint a Committee to Confer on the Causes or Reasons of said Opposition; on which, Henry Vanmeter, Jesse Pigman and George Newland, of the Opposite Partie, were appointed a Committee to Confer with us; and Christopher Hayes, Henry Beason and Alexander McClean, a Committee on behalf of Pennsylvania.

After Producing the Several Papers and Instructions, Together with Correspondent Letters of the Council of Virginia, The said Committee on the Part of Virginia Refuse to Concur with the Committee of Pennsylvania in the Measure, untill finally Determined or Proclaimed to be agreeable to the State of Virginia, other than through forceable or Dangerous Measures, Which might be attended with Consequences truly Evil.

In Witness that it is the full Intention of the Party we represent, We, as a Committee, do Sign our Names for them the Day and year aforesaid.

HENRY VANMETER,
JESSE PIGMAN,
GEORGE NEWLAND.

True Coppy.
E. COOK.

F. Hopkinson to Council, 1782.

To His Excellency the President & Honourable the supreme Executive Council for the State of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

I did myself the Honourto transmit to you on the 13th Instant* an account of Fees received by me as Judge of the Court of admiralty since the 13th, of March last, & pray'd an order on the Treasury for £76, 12, being the Ballance due for one Quarters Salary, agreeable to a Resolve of the Honourable House of assembly passed the said 13th of March. To this application I have received no definitive answer, but it hath been suggestad to me *verbally* that no Settlement can be made with me till the Close of the year viz. the 13th of March next for this Reason because it is possible that I may receive in some one Quarter more then £500 in Fees in which Case the Council could not compel me to refund any Salary that may have been paid me in a preceeding Quarter, which would be an Injury to the State & contrary to the Intentions of the House of Assembly.

My Respect for your Honours will not permit me to say what I think of such an apprehension in the present situation of this Port & of our maritime affairs in general. To obviate the objection, however I am ready to give your Honours any reasonable security, that in Case such an improbable Event should really happen I will refund any sum or Sums of money I may have received from the Treasury exceeding the Intention of the said Resolve.

I beg leave to represent to your Honours that my office precludes me from pursuing other occupations for the support of myself and Family and since I accepted the Commission additional Duties have been annexed to it viz., those of Judge in the Courts of admiralty sessions for this State, & for the United States, in which Departments no Fees whatever are allowed; and of Judge in the high Court of Errors and appeals with the inconsiderable Reward of two Bushels of Wheat for every Day I shall personally attend the Business of the said Court. My Fees as Judge of the Court of admiralty I have received subject to every Stage of the Depreciation of Paper Currency, nor hath my office notwithstanding its Rank and Importance

* See Page 555.

been any Expence to the Treasury since I have had the Honour to fill it. These Circumstances were laid before the House of Assembly, who taking the same into Consideration & also recollecting that my Predecessor had drawn from the Treasury a Salary of £500 ℔ annum exclusive of the Fees of office, which he enjoyed in undepreciated money, was pleased to pass the Resolve of the 13th of March without a dissenting voice; and their can, in my opinion, be no reasonable Doubt but that their Intention was that I should draw the Salary granted me *Quarterly;* as Salaries generally, I may say universally, are drawn. Had it been otherwise, the House would have been careful to counteract the stated Custom by expressly declaring that I was to be settled with at the Close of the year *and not before.*

I beg your Honours would also consider that I am rated for this Salary in the Commissioners Books to the full Extent, & shall be called upon for the Tax assessed, before I am entitled to one shilling thereof, according to the present opinion of your Board. With equal Propriety, with equal Justice, might I be taxed for an Estate in Reversion the Profits of which are enjoyed by another. It will also follow that whenever this Salary shall be extinguished, or by any Event I may be seperated from the office, I shall have paid one year's Tax in advance for a sum of money which I never received or could receive.

I flatter myself that these Reasons together with the Security I now offer will induce your Honours to do me that Justice which it is manifest the House of Assembly intended me. But, if you should still be apprehensive that my Fees as Judge of the admiralty may in some one Quarter exceed £500, & that the proffer'd Security is not a sufficient Guard against the Danger, I then request that I may be indulged with a *written* answer to my application or at least a certified Copy of the Determination of the Board thereupon.

I have the Honor to be,
with great Respect Gentlemen,
Your most obedient and,
very humble Servant.

FRANS. HOPKINSON.

Philad. June 29th, 1782.

Proceeding of Congress—Connecticut Claim, 1782.

The United States in Congress assembled.
Monday, June 24th 1782.

This being the day assigned for the appearance of the States of Pennsylvania & Connecticut by their lawful agents in pursuance of the notice transmitted to them agreeably to the resolutions of the 14th of November last.

The State of Pensylvania appeared by William Bradford, Joseph Reed, James Wilson & Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant Esquires, Counsellors & agents, and Henry Osborne Esqr., Solicitor, who produced their credentials which were read—as follows, viz.*

Eliphalet Dyer, Esqr, laid before Congress the powers of Agency from the State of Connecticut which were also read as follows viz.†

William Samuel Johnson and Jesse Root Esquires, two of the Agents mentioned in the powers of Agency did not appear.

Only one of the Agents for Connecticut appearing a motion was made by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Huntington that farther day be given.

Tuesday, June 25th, 1782.

The order of the day being called for by the State of Pensylvania to proceed on the business respecting the difference subsisting between the States of Pensylvania, & Connecticut, a motion was taken up which was yesterday made by Mr. Lowell, seconded by Mr. Osgood, viz.

"That in all disputes & differences between two or more States concerning boundary jurisdiction or any other cause whatever under the Consideration of Congress, the Delegates representing the several differing States, ought not in any such cases to sit as judges in any question to be decided relative to such dispute or difference."

This being objected to in point of order, On the question is the motion in order.

Passed in the negative.

Wednesday, June 26th, 1782.

The order of the day being called for by the State of Pensylvania to proceed on the business respecting the difference subsisting between the States of Pensylvania & Connecticut—The Agents William Bradford, James Wilson and Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant Esquires Agents, and H. Osborne Esq'r, Solicitor for Pensylvania, and Mr. Dyer one of the Agents for Connecticut attended without the bar, and the former in behalf of their State prayed for the following order, viz.

"That the State of Connecticut not having appeared by their lawful Agents agreeably to the resolution of the 14th day of November last, therefore Congress will on the day of next proceed to nominate three persons out of each State, in order that due proceedings may be had on the dispute mentioned in the said resolution agreeably to the 9th Article of the Confederation."

And Mr. Dyer on the part of Connecticut prayed for the following resolution, viz.

"Col. Root, one of the joint Agents, on whom the State of Connecticut depends to manage this cause being absent from Congress

* Not found—see notice of their Commission. Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 810.
† Not found.

on important business of the United States, Resolved that all proceedings on this case be postponed until the day of July next, by which time Col. Roots return may be expected."

Both parties agreed that the blank should be filled with the 25th or 26th of July. Congress took the motions under advisement, and the parties withdrew.

Thursday June 27th 1782.

The order of the day being called for to proceed in the business of the difference subsisting between the States of Pennsylvania & Connecticut, the Delegates for Connecticut laid before Congress an Instruction from their Constituents in the words following viz. "At a general assembly of the Governor & Company of the State of Connecticut holden at Hartford in said State by adjournment on the 10th day of January anno. Dom. 1782. Resolved, by this assembly that the Delegates of this State in the Congress of the United States be & they are hereby authorised and instructed to move Congress to postpone the appointment of Commissioners to hear and determine the case respecting the lands in Controversy between the State of Pensylvania and this State until after the termination of the present war, because that sundry papers of importance in the case are in the hands of Council in England and cannot be procured during the war, nor is it convenient for the States to direct their attention from the great objects of the war to attend to private controversies."

And thereupon moved the following resolution.

"That Congress postpone the appointment of Commisioners to hear & determine the Cause respecting the lands in Controversy between the State of Pensylvania & the State of Connecticut untill after the determination of the present war."

A motion was made by Mr. Bland Seconded by Mr. Howell to postpone the Consideration of this motion, and on the question for postponing the yeas & nays being required by Mr. Scott.

New Hampshire.—	Mr. Gilman, Ay.	X
Massachusetts.—	Mr. Osgood, Ay. Mr. Lowell, Ay.	Ay.
Rhode Island.—	Mr. Conell, Ay. Mr. Howell, Ay.	Ay.
Connecticut.—	Mr. Huntington, No. Mr. Dyor, No.	No.
New York.—	Mr. Duane, Ay. Mr. Scott, Ay.	Ay.
New Jersey.—	Mr. Clarke, Ay. Mr. Condict, Ay. Mr. Witherspoon, Ay.	Ay.

Pensylvania.—	Mr. Smith, Ay. Mr. Clymer, Ay. Mr. Wynkoop, Ay.	Ay.
Delaware.—	Mr. McKean, Ay. Mr. Dickinson, Ay. Mr. Wharton, Ay.	Ay.
Maryland.—	Mr. Hanson, Ay. Mr. Wright, Ay.	Ay.
Virginia.—	Mr. Madison, Ay. Mr. Bland, Ay. Mr. Lee, Ay,	Ay.
South Carolina.—	Mr. Rutledge, Ay. Mr. Ramsay, Ay. Mr. Izard, Ay. Mr. Middleton, Ay.	Ay.
Georgia.—	Mr. Jones, Ay. Mr. Few, Ay.	Ay.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by Mr. Bland, Seconded by Mr. Howell. "That the sense of the House be taken whether the reasons for the non-attendance of the agents from Connecticut yesterday assigned by the honble. E. Dyer be sufficient."

Friday June 28th, 1782.

The order of the day being called for.

Congress resumed the Consideration of the motion made yesterday which was amended to read.

"That the sense of Congress be taken whether sufficient reasons have been shown for the non-appearance of the State of Connecticut by its lawful agents."

After debate the determination of the question was postponed by the State of Rhode Island.

Monday July 1st 1782.

On motion of Mr. Witherspoon Seconded by Mr. Lowell.

Resolved, That the determination of the question which was postponed on Friday last by the State of Rhode Island, be farther postponed.

Extract from the minutes,

GEO. BOND Depy. Secy.

Deposition of John Robinson, 1782.

(Copy.)

Washington County, ss.

Personally appeared before me, the Subscriber, one of the common Wealth's Justices of the Peace for said County—John Robinson, and being duly sworn, deposeth and Sayeth—that some time in May last, at the Meeting House of the Rev^d Mr. McMillan, a large number of people being convened, and being anxious to know this County's Quota of Tax, & in what manner it was to be paid, addressed themselves to Mr. Penticoast, member of Council, who was present, as He seemed the most proper person to inform them, requesting his information, to wch He answered the Tax was very large and only to be paid in Gold or silver, wch the people were not able to do; a Gentleman present answered He had seen Financier Genl Morris's Letter signifying his desire for the good of the Inhabitants of this County to accept Flour in Lieu of Specie for the Amount of Taxes, to wch Mr. Penticoast replied that the people might pay their Taxes in Flour, but that Bob. Morris knew his own Ends by so doing and meant only to serve himself, that He would receive the Flour at his own price and after supplying the Troops here, He would send the remainder to Orleans, sell it to the best advantage & put the proffits in his own pockett. That the people were in such circumstances, that it would be so difficult, expensive, & troublesome, in sending wheat to different Mills, and adjusting every particular person's Quota of Tax, that it would be impossible for the people to comply therewith, and that they had three choices, two of wch He had already recited, to which he spoke largely, or thirdly to pay none at all, as that was their only refuge, and as part of the people might by law be exempted, the remainder could not be punished by law should they stand out against paying altogether, and that He, the said Mr. Pentecoast, seemed to give it as his opinion and advice that the last mentioned manner of proceeding seemed the most Eligible for them in their present Situation—And further this deponent saith not.

Sworn and subscribed before me, at Washington, this 20th Day of June, 1782.

JOHN ROBINSON.

MATTHEW McCONNAL.

Deposition of Hugh M. Breckenridge, 1782.

Washington County, ss.

Personally appeared before me, the subscriber, one of the commonwealth's Justices of the Peace for said County, Hugh M. Brackenridge, Esqr., being summoned to give evidence with regard to the conduct of Dorsey Pentecoast, Esqr., in exciting and fomenting the

present disturbances in the County of Washington. Saith that he heard Mr. Pentecoast, on his return from Council, declare that the line, meaning that with Virginia and this Commonwealth, would never be run, and that this Country never woud be Pennsylvania or Virginia, but a new State. At the time that meetings were frequently held in the County, where matters of a seditious nature were proposed, anonymous notes in writing were circulated thro' the County, advertising a meeting under the pretence for consulting measures for the preservation of the County, which notes were in Mr. Pentecoast's handwriting.

On oath before me this 4th day of July, 1782.

(Copy.) JOHN DOUGLASS.

JOHN HENRY TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

As I have not the Honour to be personally known to your Excellency, I presume the inclosed, which I had the pleasure of receiving the day before my departure from Jamaica, from a gentleman whose attachment to the cause of America (tho' resident among the British) is I dare say too well known to your Excellency to need mentioning; will explain who I am, and my business on the Continent; at the same time give me leave to observe that our leaving America was at the particular request of the Hon[l] the Congress, so early as the latter end of the year 1774, on which account the Honb[l] the Legislation of the State of Maryland, not three weeks ago pas'd an Act in our favour, and which, when happier times arrive I flatter myself will have some weight in this State on a similar occasion. I find our Theatre here entirely out of repair, and a debt for Ground rent and taxes incurred to the Amount of £174 7 6. I learn also that it has been used for some time *by permission* for the Exhibition of a Wire dancer, on this account I presume to address your Excellency for Permission, *for one Night only*, to deliver a *Lecture on Heads*, for the purpose of paying the above debt incurred since our Banishment, the nature of which, I dare say, will have weight with your Excellency in granting me this favour, particularly as I venture to affirm, that the American Company, for which title, (*to this hour preserved*,) they have suffered no small persecution, are as firmly attached to the Country (tho' absent by Command) as any residents in it.*

I shall do myself the Honour to morrow of paying my personal Respects to your Excellency, assuring you that I am with the greatest Respect,

your Excellency's

most devoted, very Hble Serv[t],

JOHN HENRY.

July 1st, 1782.

Directed,—His Exc'y, ——— Moore, Esqr.

* See Col. Rec.. Vol. XIII., p. 824.—Not granted.

Capt. Alex'r Arbuthnot to William Henry, 1782.

Lancaster, 2d July, 1782.

Sir,

As I understand that you, by an Order from the Supreme Council of Pensylvania, have seized upon all the Goods, &c., that remained in Mr. Taylor's store, I beg leave to inform you that the Wine is not his property but actually purchased for the Officers & sick Soldiers, the reason why it was left in Mr. Taylor's Cellar is owing to the Officers not having a proper convenience at their Quarters, and they took it out as it was wanted for use. I therefore hope you will order it to be given up.

Whatever has been the Cause for taking this step, it certainly never can be attributed to the Officers, and I must think it hard indeed, if they are to lose any of their private property, particularly under the sanction of General Washington's Passport, mentioning Table stores in which wine is most certainly included.

I am, Sir,

your most obed^t humble servant,

ALEX^r ARBUTHNOT,

Capt 80th Reg^t.*

Indorsed,

Read in Council, July 5th, 1782.

Directed,

Willm Henry, Esqr., Lancaster.

Memorial of Prisoners in Clark's Expedition, 1782.

Sir,

We the subscribers, Inhabitants of the County of Westmoreland, beg leave to represent to your Excellency and Council that we had the misfortune to be made prisoners of by the Indians on the 24th of August last and carried to Montreal, and there kept in close confinement till the 26th of May last, when we were so fortunate as to make our escape, and after a long and fatigueing march through the Wilderness, we got to this City yesterday at three o'Clock. As we are at present destitute of both Money and Cloathes, without which we cannot go home, We pray your Exc'y and Council to take our case into Consideration, and order us our pay from the time we were made prisoners to this.

We were under the Command of Colo. Loughery† when taken, and have a list of all those, both Officers and privates, who are now prison-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 328.

† See page 333.

ers of that party, which together with such information as is in our power, we are ready to give for the satisfaction of your Exc'y and Council.

We have the Honour to be

your Excellency's Hble. Servts,

ISAAC ANDERSON,
Lieut Capt Sheerer's Company Rangers.

RICHARD WALLACE,
late quarter master to Colonel Lochry.

Directed—His Exc'y, Pres. Moore.

Indorsed.—July 3, 1782.

Inhabitants of Westmoreland Co^y taken with Colonel Lochry and carried in Canada, from whence they have made their escape.

GEN. WM. IRVINE TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Fort Pitt, July 5th, 1782.

Sir,

There has been many meetings in this County respecting Taxes 'tis said, and I fear with truth, that a great majority of the people are determined not to pay any in any mode; 'tis also said that they are advised to this by some of the first People of the Country.—The running the boundary line has been again put a stop to by a party of men who call themselves Virginians; it seems the Commissioner on the part of Virginia did not attend. Mr McClean has been with me to ask my advice how to proceed, and to know whether I could spare any Continental Troops for to assist. I could not well spare them; beside, on maturely considering the circumstances, I was of opinion it would not be proper for me to inforce the business with Continental Troops on the part of Pennsylvania, particularly as the Commissioner from Virginia did not attend. I might be charged, perhaps, with promoting a Quarrel between the two States; I therefore advised Mr McClean to call on Colonels Cook & Marshall, and get them to assist him in representing fully to Council this transaction, as well as the supposed cause of such conduct, and to bring, if possible into view the principal secret Actors in this and other (I think Treasonable) acts. I believe this is done, or will be in a few days. I also saw Col. Marshall, who informed me he was collecting Qualifications for this purpose. I think Col. Marshall is one of the most active, Zealous supporters of Government in this Country. This moment Doctor Bright has arrived, the Surgeon I sent with the Volunteers to Sandusky; he was several days in the hands of the Indians, but fortunately made his escape from his keeper, who was conducting him to another Settlement to be bound. He brings the disagreeable account,

that Colonel Crawford and all the rest (about twelve to the Doctor's knowledge) who fell into his hands, were burned to death in a most shocking manner; the unfortunate Colonel in particular, was upwards of four hours burning. The reason they assign for this uncommon Barbarity, is retaliation for the Moravian affair.* The Doctor adds, that he understood those people had laid aside their Religious principles, and have gone to War; that he saw two of them bring in scalps who he formerly knew.

The people generally seem anxious to make another tryal, and press me to take Command of them. Their proposals are to raise Volunteers, Provisions and Horses, by subscription, at their own Expence, without making any charge against the public, unless they should hereafter think proper to reimburse them; they also promise to obey orders, &c^a.; the 1st of August is the time talked of to march. I have not yet determined whether to go or not, but in the meantime am getting in Returns of Men, Horses & provision subscribed. The arrangement made for covering the frontier has hitherto answered well; not more than four or five have been killed the two last months that I have heard of; but I much fear I shall not be able to keep the Militia out much longer for want of Provision.

I will, next opportunity, transmit a Return of the Pennsylvania Troops at this Post, and the attestations of the Recruits.

I have the honor to be,

With great Respect, Sir,

Your Excellency's Most obedient

and Most Humble Servant,

Wm IRVINE.

Directed,—Public Serviee.

His Excellency William Moore, Esquire, Philadelphia.

Favoured by Mr Wilson.

Wm. Bradford, Jr., Att'y General, to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philad., July 6, 1782.

Sir,

Upon Conference this Day, the Agents on the Part of Pennsylvania think it advisable, that immediate Measures should be taken to collect the Evidence on the Controversy with Connecticut, & therefore beg Leave to recommend to your Excell^y & the Council, that some Person be engaged to go to Connecticut & New York on this important Business. Mr Wilson being engaged to attend the

* See page 524.

Court of Appeals at Hartford, the Person so employed will have the Benefits of his Direction & Advice in the Work, a Circumstance which we apprehend will be of great Utility to this State.

We are, very respectfully,

Your Excell^ys & the Council's

most Obed. Hble. Serv^ts,

Wm BRADFORD, Jun.,

in behalf of the Agents

from Penna^.

Directed,

His Excellency Wm Moore, Esqr, President of Pennsylvania.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

To His Excellency the President, and Honourable the Supreme Executive Council for the State of Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen,

Having received no Answer to my Applications of the 13th & 29th of June last, I conclude that your Honours are still of Opinion that the Resolve of the House of Assembly of the 13th March does not empower a Settlement with me *Quarterly*. I therefore beg leave to alter the mode of my Request, & I now pray your Honours to grant me a warrant on the Treasury for £76 12 *on account*. This, I hope, will obviate the Difficulty that hath occurr'd by making me answerable for the Sums I may have received when a Settlement shall be made at the Close of the Year.

As I understand this is the Practice of some other Officers of Government, & to which your Honours have never objected, I flatter myself there can be no Reason why the same Indulgence, the same Justice, should not be extended to me also.

I have the Honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most respectful

& obedient humble servant,

FRAS. HOPKINSON.

Philadelphia, July 8th, 1782.

TIMOTHY PICKERING TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Philadelphia, July 9, 1782.

Sir,

The bearer is one of three women, who with six children were taken prisoners at or near the Ohio, & from thence carried to the Provost in Quebec, where they have been for several years. His Excellency General Washington desired they might be sent hither

from New Windsor, where they had arrived from Canada. This is the information sent me from my office at New Windsor. The women and children are as wretched as the total want of money & friends can make them. They have been brought here in waggons in the public service. I do not know to whom I can with so much propriety direct them for Relief, as to your Excellency, two of the women and four of the children being inhabitants of this State:—the others belonging to Virginia, can be relieved by the State, or recommended to the charity of the humane in this city, as you shall think proper.

I have the honour to be,

very respectfully,

your Excellency's

most obedt. servant,

TIM. PICKERING,

Q. M. G.

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President of the State of Pennsylvania.

Robert Levers to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Easton, July 10th, 1782.

Sir,

On the third instant whilst the sublieutenants were here, endeavoring to settle their accounts, I received the order of Council, "directing the lieutenants of this county to call out no greater "number of militia, than one hundred at any one time, for the "protection of this county, but by special order from Council.

The extent of the frontier of this county, on the north side of the Kittochtinny mountain to the upper settlements in Minesink is above one hundred miles and as all last summer & fall as well as this spring there were continual alarms, and real appearances of Indians, (tho happily no mischief perpetrated, except one lad killed and scalped this spring not two miles from Capt. Shrawder's post) it was judged that not less than one class should be called to answer any purpose in protecting the inhabitants; and this has been done generally since my appointment. The second class, which was called out in April last, to finish their tour began in the preceding fall, consisted of Two hundred & thirty militia, including officers or thereabouts, and were not on the frontier half the two months this spring as still appear by the muster rolls; part of them having served in the fall, and thro' services performed before my appointment, in conducting prisoners, &c^a, for which Col. Rea had given orders, that certificates should be given by the captains of the

respective companies for so much time as he had allowed to each militia man that had been on duty, when he should be called out into service on the frontiers, as the certificate should mention; and this is the case thro every class—add to this, that tho' I have wearied myself by writing alternately, as well to the field officers on duty as the captains of every company when the classes have been called out, to observe a strict discipline with the men, and that they might be kept on the frontiers, yet the militia, as well officers as men, go and come when they please, and there is no kind of subordination whatever; by which means the inhabitants are continually applying to me for a protection it has not been in my power to give—But it has fortunately turned out, their danger has been generally more from apprehension than otherwise.

When Council had been pleased to direct the accounts of the commissary of purchases to be countersigned by me, as lieutenant, in order to discharge the duty I apprehended council expected from me, I wrote to Col. Kerne, the then commander of the militia on the frontiers, and to the captain of each company, requesting a weekly return of the militia of each company, as I knew thro the nature of the above certificates the militia would be daily decreasing, in order that I might have been able to have formed some estimate of the rations issued, but this I could never obtain.

I would not presume to seem not to have the most perfect acquiesence in the order of council; but I fear that one hundred men at this particular time of harvest, will not be sufficient to guard the inhabitants along the Frontier, I mean rather, that I fear they will be insufficient to keep them in spirits; for if any mischief should happen, and the people in harvest thereby be panic struck, it will be a hard matter to prevail on them to return, tho the loss of their crop should be the fatal consequence—It is with the utmost difficulty many have been prevailed on to stay on their places, and a few frontier families flying, would spread like a contagion, and perhaps introduce universal desolation in that quarter—Finding thro the course of last summer and fall it was impossible to prevail on the militia to scout, in any tolerable degree, it was judged necessary this spring, to station the militia from house to house on the frontier, and whatever real security it might have been in case of attacks from the enemy, there being in many houses only one, few had more than two or three, yet, as it was the request of the inhabitants, and the only means to prevail on them to stay on their places, it was judged expedient least a remove might be the consequence, which undoubtedly would have been the case with some. The rumors of Indians having been seen at different places and at different times near several Plantations on the frontiers of this county are many, and seem well supported; but as no mischief had ensued, but the above mentioned, which is not to be accounted for from the general conduct of Indians, I did not think it proper to trouble council therewith.

Upon the call of a class it was judged necessary last summer, and has been since continued in the third class now on duty, to call out the field officers, expecting their exertions would cause emulation; but it being the general desire, that they may not any more be called, not appearing to answer any good design, yet at the same time encreasing the expence—I beg council will be pleased to instruct me on this head—Tho I have called upon Col. Behm for a Return of the militia on duty, in the third class, I have not hitherto been able to obtain it; notwithstanding they have been out a month, and for which reason I am not able to inform the council what numbers are now on the frontiers.

Herewith I send to the Supreme Executive Council, the accounts as settled by John Hays and Peter Burkhalder, Esquires, two of the sublieutenants, by which it will appear that there have few or no fines arisen out of their Battalions in the Eighth, first and second classes, and that upon a final settlement with them, there will be nothing remaining in their hands, but on the contrary money due to them as will appear by their accounts currant—The accounts are now sent down for the inspection and direction of council therein, as neither they or myself know what they ought to charge, or to be allowed for their services—Whenever council shall be pleased to give directions therein, and to settle the allowance for services, the accounts will be made compleat—Col. Burkhalder has promised to settle his account in the course of this week, he was here last week, but was not ready—Col. Chambers is making out his general account, and when delivered to me shall transmit it with the other accounts—As Five companies of the Fifth Battallion, which he superintends, had not been accoustomed to have been called out before my appointment, living on the frontiers, there are very few fines in his battalion, and such as are, have been in the hands of the sherif some time, but I believe from the poverty of the people cannot be collected.

With respect to the Second and Fourth battalions which I superintend, out of one thousand pounds at least of Fines from the Eighth and First Classes, it has not been in mine or the Sherif's power as yet to receive more than Fifty One Pounds Ten shillings—The Sherif is now abroad on that business—Some Fines have been and are to be received by Col. Leimbach from the first battalion which he superintends, but I cannot speak with any degree of certainty as to the sum; they must be very trifling in comparison to the demands from the militia.

What sums may be due to the militia for services during the lieutenancy of Samuel Rea, Esqr, I can have no idea of, having never seen the muster rolls.

From the Muster Rolls in the eighth, first and second Classes, which have been called since my appointment, it does appear, that the pay due to the militia, on account of services, last summer & this spring, including the time served for conducting prisoners &c^a,

attended by Mr. Rea as before mentioned, will amount to a sum not less than eight thousand pounds; but as the services performed as ℔ certificates for conducting prisoners &c^a, in the time of Samuel Rea, Esqr, are considerable and before June, 1782, Council will please to direct the paymaster, if these are to be paid in State or Gold and Silver.

Samuel Rea, Esquire, as I understand has little or no money in his hands, having paid it into the treasury long ago, on the contrary it appears, as I am informed, that by his last settlement with the sublieutenants in May, 1782, that there is a ballance coming to them jointly from him of some considerable amount continental—Last Wednesday I received from Col. Rea, a Return of Exercise fines due from thirteen delinqnents in the Spring 1781, which he informs me he returns to me to collect agreeable to the directions we both received from council last May, and that if on further examination he should find any others, he will return them immediately to me.

The Militia that have been out in the eighth, first and second classes, are very uneasy at receiving no pay; and the above state of the fines arising from this county, shows that when all shall be collected, they will fall exceeding short of the sum necessary to pay off the militia that have done duty in this county, and without pay, for want of money to pay taxes and for other purposes, will I fear become very troublesome, and may retard the future turning out of the militia, how great soever the necessity may be.

I am Sir,

your Excellency's

most obedient servant,

ROBERT LEVERS.

So soon as the Returns of the state arms shall be made, they will be forwarded to the supreme executive council; but nothwithstanding the express demand thereof from council was made known to the officers of the several battalions, upon the receipt of the order of council, and Returns thereof required to be made immediately, there has not been one return from any quarter sent to me, or to either of the sublieutenants; the business of harvest has I apprehend prevented, and diverted from a proper attention to duty.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore Esquire.

Indorsed,

Read in Council July 12, 1782.* Accounts & Vouchers sent into Auditor's office.

T. M. Sec'y.

* Not mentioned in the minutes of that date.

Resolution of Congress, 1782.

By the United States, in Congress assembled.

July 16th, 1782.

James Wilson and Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, Esquires, agents for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with Henry Osborne, Esq., Solicitor and agent, appeared in behalf of that Commonwealth, and Eliphalet Dyer and Jessee Root, Esquires, Agents for Connecticut, appeared in behalf of that State, in the cause depending before the United States of America, in Congress assembled, between the said Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of Connecticut.

The agents for Pennsylvania produced new powers, which were read—as follows:*

The agents of Connecticut having objected against the powers of the agents of Pennsylvania and moved that it may be shown that the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania have a right to grant such powers & commission. Ordered that the agents withdraw.

On motion, That the agents of Pennsylvania & Connecticut be called in and informed by the President that the powers given to the agents of Pennsylvania and Connecticut are in the Judgment of Congress sufficient.

The yeas and nays being required by Mr. Smith,

Newhampshire.	Mr. Gilman, ay.	⋈
Massachusetts.	Mr. Osgood, no. Mr. Lowell, no. Mr. Jackson, no.	No.
Rhode Island.	Mr. Cornell. no. Mr. Howell, no.	No.
Connecticut.	Mr. Root, no. Mr. Dyer, no. Mr. Huntington, no.	No.
New York.	Mr. Duane, ay.	⋈
New Jersey.	Mr. Clark, ay. Mr. Condict, ay. Mr. Witherspoon, ay.	Ay.
Pennsylvania.	Mr. Montgomery, ay. Mr. Smith, ay. Mr. Clymer, ay.	Ay.
Delaware.	Mr. McKean, ay. Mr. Dickinson, ay. Mr. Wharton, no.	Ay.
Maryland.	Mr. Hanson, ay.	⋈

* Not found.

Virginia.	Mr. Madison, no. Mr. Bland, ay. Mr. Lee, no.	No.
South Carolina.	Mr. Rutledge, ay. Mr. Ramsay, ay. Mr. Izard, no. Mr. Middleton, ay.	Ay.
Georgia.	Mr. Telfair, ay. Mr. Jones, ay. Mr. Few, ay.	Ay.

So the question was lost.

A motion was then made by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Madison, That the agents be called in & desired to proceed.

And the Yeas and Nays being required by Mr. Smith,

Newhampshire.	Mr. Gilman, ay.	Ay.
Massachusetts.	Mr. Osgood, ay. Mr. Lowell, ay. Mr. Jackson, ay.	Ay.
Rhode Island.	Mr. Cornell, ay. Mr. Howell, ay.	Ay.
Connecticut.	Mr. Root, ay. Mr. Huntington, ay. Mr. Dyer, ay.	Ay.
New York.	Mr. Duane, ay.	⋈
New Jersey.	Mr. Clark, ay. Mr. Condict, ay. Mr. Witherspoon, ay.	Ay.
Pennsylvania.	Mr. Montgomery, ay. Mr. Smith. ay. Mr. Clymer, ay.	Ay.
Delaware.	Mr. McKean, ay. Mr. Dickinson, ay. Mr. Wharton, ay.	Ay.
Maryland.	Mr. Hanson, ay.	⋈
Virginia.	Mr. Madison, ay. Mr. Bland, no. Mr. Lee, ay.	Ay.
South Carolina.	Mr. Rutledge, ay. Mr. Ramsay, ay. Mr. Izard, ay. Mr. Middleton, ay.	Ay.
Georgia.	Mr. Telfair, ay. Mr. Jones, ay. Mr. Few, ay.	Ay.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

The agents being accordingly called in and the parties having been fully heard,

On motion, That the appointment presented to Congress by the Agents for Pennsylvania is sufficient.

The yeas & nays being required by Mr. Smith.

Newhampshire.	Mr. Gilman, ay.	⋈
Massachussetts.	Mr. Osgood, ay. Mr. Lowell, ay. Mr. Jackson, ay.	Ay.
Rhode Island.	Mr. Cornell, ay. Mr. Howell, ay.	Ay.
Connecticut.	Mr. Root, no. Mr. Huntington, ay. Mr. Dyer, no.	No.
New York.	Mr. Duane, ay.	⋈
New Jersey.	Mr. Clark, ay. Mr. Condict, ay. Mr. Witherspoon, ay.	Ay.
Pensylvania.	Mr. Montgomery, ay. Mr. Smith, ay. Mr. Clymer, ay.	Ay.
Delaware.	Mr. McKean, ay. Mr. Dickinson, ay. Mr. Wharton, ay.	Ay.
Maryland.	Mr. Hanson, ay.	⋈
Virginia.	Mr. Madison, ay. Mr. Bland, ay. Mr. Lee, ay.	Ay.
South Carolina.	Mr. Rutledge, ay. Mr. Ramsay, ay. Mr. Izard, ay. Mr. Middleton, ay.	Ay.
Georgia.	Mr. Telfair, ay. Mr. Jones, ay. Mr. Few, ay.	Ay.

So it was resolved in the Affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Duane, seconded by Mr. Clarke, Resolved, That the Agents of Pensylvania and Connecticut be and they are hereby directed to appoint, by joint consent, commissioners or Judges to constitute a Court for hearing and determining the matter in question agreeably to the ninth article of the Confederation.

Extract from the minutes,

CHA. THOMSON, Secy.

ALEXANDER MCCLEAN TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Union Town, July 16th, 1782.

Dr Sir,

Inclosed is an extract from General Irwin, by which it appears the Council of that State have it in View to quiet the people, and Reconcile them to Government; but there appears to have either been a mistake in the time first appointed by your Excellency, or in Governor Harrison's Letter to General Irwin Respecting the time. However, I have attended to both with the greatest Care I was capable of. I did not proceed to the latter in person, being contrary to Instructions, but have taken every convenient measure to inform myself of their coming, but have Receiv'd no Intelligence from thence.

I now take the Liberty to inform you, that at a late Consultation with the Executive here, We are Determined to proceed at all Hazards. I could have wished for your approbation, being fully persuaded the attempt will be Hazardous; yet upon a Second thought, knowing the Spirit of Virginia, I am lead to believe, if it is not very shortly, the Authority will be again usurped, and, perhaps, the breach in so doing made so wide as never to be healed, being sensible the treatment you have Received from them may justly aggravate you to write to them in such a manner that their haughty spirits cannot bear. A Petition is now gone down to the Legislature of Virginia by Mr Pigman, one of the Signers to their Resolve, Requesting them to take them under their (GRACIOUS) Protection, or proclaim them to be given to that of Pennsylvania; If you have not yet Wrote to Virginia on the Subject, pray postpone it until we make a further trial, which will be immediately after Harvest, or Otherwise as to you shall seem mete; but if intelligence can be conveyed before we proceed, I would Thank you to signify your pleasure.

I have the Honor to be,
with great Regard,
yours to Serve,
ALEXANDER MCCLEAN.

EXTRACT, &c.

Measures are taking for running the boundary line between the two States, and I expect Commissioners will meet for that purpose at the extremity of the Maryland line on the 10th day of July next, which I hope will quiet the people & reconcile them to the present Governments.

The above is extracted from Governor Harrison's letter to me, dated 22d May, 1782; but whether he made a mistake in the date,

& intended June, but made it July—or whether there has been a mistake originally—in the time proposed for meeting, I know not.

Wm IRVINE,

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, President of Pennsylvania.

&^c favour of Major Wm Croghan.

COMMISSIONERS FOR RIVER DEFENCE TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Philad^a, 18th July, 1782.

S^r,

We have the Honour to inform your Excellency, that the Ship Genl Washington is safe arrived in the Delaware, after effecting a Voyage to Cape Francois and the Havanna.

Four Days after leaving our Capes, she fell in with and Captured a Brigantine from Jamaica, loaded with Rum, &c., which arrived safe at Cape Francois, & was there sold; also a small Schooner which she Recaptured, loaded with Naval Stores.

In Latitude 21, near Turks Island, She engaged a Copper Bottom Privateer Brig of Sixteen Nine pounders, belonging to Lancaster; in the Action the Washington was disabled in her Main and Mizen Masts, which afforded the Brig an opportunity of escapeing; the Ship had her Masts replaced while at Hispaniola.—On the night of her arrival in our Bay, she fell in with two Refugee Boats & five River Crafts they had Captured, three of which she Recaptured, & sunk One; The two Boats, after receiving a Severe Fire, made their escape.

We are, with all due respect,

Your Excellency's

Most Hble. Servts.,

JN^o PATTON,
WILL^m ALLIBONE, } Comrs.
FRA^s GURNEY,

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr., President.

CERTIFICATE IN FAVOR OF BRIG. GEN. IRVINE, 1782.

(Copy.)

To all whom it may concern:

This is to certify that Brigadier General James Irvine of the Pennsylvania Militia, in an Engagement with the British Infantry at Chesnut Hill on the fifth day of December 1777, having received a wound by which three of his Fingers were shot off, and also a contusion in his Neck which greatly endangered his Life, and hath left a considerable Injury to the free motion of the same; committed

himself to my charge the next day, and was under my daily care and Attendance upwards of two months; and that he hath been maimed and Disabled by said wound and contusion ever since.

Wherefore, in compliance with an Act of Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania passed into a Law the eighteenth day of September 1777, making Provision for the Relief of Officers, Soldiers, Marines, and Seamen &c. in testimony of the above related facts, I have hereunto subscribed my Name at Philadelphia this 9th day of July 1782.

(Signed,) JOHN MORGAN,
Physician & Surgeon.

(Copy.)

These may certify that Brigadier General James Irvine of the Pennsylvania Militia was this day regularly Exchanged for Brigadier General Hamilton of the Convention Troops, and is therefore at Liberty to enter into a full activity of Service.

Given under my Hand this third day of Sept^r, 1781.

AB^m SKINNER,
Com. Gen. Pris.

To whom it may concern.

(Copy.)

To Isaac Snowden, Esquire, Treasurer of the County of Philadelphia.

Whereas, it appears to us the subscribers by the Certificate hereunto annexed that brigadier general James Irvine in an Engagement with the british Light Infantry at Chesnut Hill on the fifth day of September 1777, had three of his Fingers shot off, and also received a contusion in his Neck which hath left a considerable Injury to the free Motion of the same; and that he hath been Maimed and Disabled by said wound and contusion ever since. And it also appearing to us by a Certificate signed Abraham Skinner, Com. Gen. Pris. that the said James Irvine was Exchanged from his captivity on the 3rd day of September 1781, at which time his Pay as an officer in the service of the United States of America ceased. And, being convinced of the truth of the facts as above stated, We do adjudge that the said James Irvine is entitled to receive a Pension adequate to the injury he has received. You are therefore hereby required to Pay unto the said brigadier general James Irvine sixty two dollars specie, per Month, during the continuance of his Disability, from the 3^d day of September 1781, According to the Act in that case made and provided.

Given under our Hands & Seals at Philadelphia this 19th day of July 1782.

ISAAC HOWELL, one of the Justices for the City and County. [L. S.]
PETER DE HAVEN, [L. S.]
JACOB BARGE, [L. S.]

List of Pensions.

The following Persons receive a pension from Isaac Snowden County Treas. Viz.

	£		
Peter Clark,	4	5	
Nicholas Curry,	2	15	
John Isminger,	2	10	
John Thompson,	3	13	9
John Delany,	2	8	9
Thomas Tweedy,	2	17	6
Simon Shillenberger,	2	10	
Nicholas Caldwell,	1	19	4
James Brenon,	2	10	
Solomon Bush,	16	5	
Widow Reynolds,	5	12	6
Widow McClintock,	5	3	9
Widow Morton,	5	3	9
Widow Bitten,	7	10	
Widow Perry,	7	10	
Widow Miller,	7	10	
Paid monthly,	£80	4	4

Pres. Moore to Alexander McClean, Esq., 1782.

In Council, Philada July 20, 1782.

Your letter of the 27th Ult°.* came to hand and having been read in Council, together with the proceedings enclosed, and your conduct is approved of.

Enclosed you have copy of a resolution of the legislature of Virginia† respecting the line between that State & ours, dated June 1, and copy of Governor Harrisons letter accompanying it dated June 29. And also the order of Council of the 19th inst. directing you to attend at the west end of Mason & Dixons line on Monday the 4th of November next.‡ You are then in conjunction with the Surveyor to be appointed on the part of Virginia, to proceed in running the line agreable to your former direction.

It will be adviseable to call out the militia for guards from among those who live at some distance from the line, and we hope Virginia will take the same precautions to prevent heats and needless controversy.

The intimations contained in your letter will be attended to, and it is expected that you will throw such further light on that business

* See page 564. † Not found.
‡ See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 334.

as shall be within your power, tending either to remove or confirm the suspicions which you appear to entertain, as should they appear to be well founded the Council may think it proper to enquire seriously concerning the matter.

Colonel Hays will continue his assistance under the former instructions.

Directed,—To Alex^r McClean Esqr, Westmoreland.

JAMES SEARLE TO PRES. MOORE. 1782.

Baskin-ridge, New Jersey, 23d July, 1782.

Sir,

Agreeable to your desire I trouble you with the substance (in writing) of what I had the honour of communicating to you in Council the day after my return to Philadelphia respecting my unsuccessfull mission to Europe as agent for the State of Pennsylvania for the purpose of procureing a sum of money on Loan for the use of the said State.

In consequence of the Commission, & Instructions I received from his Excellency the President together with the Honorable Council & the Honorable the speaker of the House of Assembly dated the 8th July 1780, I lost no time in Embarking for Europe; On my arrival at Paris (in my way to Holland) in Septr. 1780, I made every necessary enquiry respecting the nature of the business I was sent upon; I found that I was more likely to succeed in Holland than in any other part of Europe, & therefore after having obtained letters of introduction to some of the most Capital Houses of business at Amsterdam I proceeded immediately to that City where I found Mr. Adams the Minister of America to whom I had a letter from his Excellency the President of Pennsylvania requesting his assistance & Friendship in the busines, both which I experienced in the greatest Degree. I made an Early acquaintance with the House of Messr. John De Neufville & Son of Amsterdam who were represented to me as the Firm Friends of America and who were afterwards applied to by Mr. Adams to negociate a Loan for the United States; These Gentlemen assisted me in making every Enquiry & taking every measure to obtain the Loan by applying to the different Capitalists and employing also the most considerable stock Brokers agreeable to the custom of Holland, But I found the People so much under the influence of their fears of offending their Governours who were on their parts said to be attached to the British Interests & measures that notwithstanding every effort we could make we did not meet with the least success in obtaing the money, and indeed Mr. Adams himself after using every means in his power found it in vain even tho' his application was in the name of the United States, nor had he been able to succeed in the smallest degree at the time I left Europe.

I had an offer made me thro' Messrs. De Neufvilles of a considerable Quantity of Coarse Cloths & many other articles which I was instructed to purchase if I had obtained the Loan, but this offer was only confined to a Credit of Thirty months or Three years paying Interest. I informed his Excellency the President of the State of this offer in my Letters of 12th November 1780 and at the same time suggested the procureing if possible the Guarantee of Congress for the State of Pennsylvania in the Loan, which I am persuaded would have Effected it. When I found the navigation totally shut up in Holland for some months I determined after having Consulted Mr. Adams to return to Paris & try other methods in that City; For this purpose I obtained letters from Mr. Adams to the Friends of some of the most considerable Farmers General at Paris to whom I made many applications; Those Gentlemen could only think of furnishing the money conditioned to be paid in Tobacco in the Course of One or two years, & delivered to them at a fixed price & at the risk of the States. When I found nothing could be done with them, I applied myself to a considerable Company of Gentlemen called the Company of Lyons who were the Furnishers of the armys of France; upon some prospect of success with them I delivered them an Invoice of all the articles I was directed to procure which according to their calculation would have amounted to something more than Two millions of livres; They offer'd to furnish all the articles upon the terms the Kings troops were supplied as to price, & upon a Credit of Three, four, & five years provided I could obtain the Guarantee of Congress for the State, and without which they could not prevail upon themselves to undertake the business; But as I was by no means prepared to comply with their demands the business was dropped. I returned once more to Holland but with little hopes of success, & the event fully justified my fears as I was not able to succeed in the least in Holland. I beg leave here just to mention that I was not singular in not succeeding as agents from Massachussetts & Virginia had in vain attempted Loans in Holland &c, & even Mr. Adams did not succeed in the smallest Degree. I remained in Holland until August 1781, when my weak state of health made it absolutely necessary for me to leave a climate which had so greatly injured my Constitution, but after an unsuccessfull attempt to return to America I was again carried to Europe.

It is not proper to trouble your Excellency with the particulars of my disapointments & perplexity in this Voyage and shall only observe that upon my being again in France I had an offer of being supplied with the money I had been endeavouring to procure upon condition I could obtain the Guarantee aforesaid, & would agree to lay the money out in the Country from which I obtained the Loan, to which there could have been no hesitation if I had been authorised to pursue the business; This offer was made to me by the agent of a Powerfull northern monarch & if the business had been effected, it was hinted that a neutral protection could have been obtained for my effects that might have been shipped.

Having received the Resolve of the Honble. Council dated 21 July 1781 for my recall which reached me in November at L'Orient, I laid aside all further steps in the business, & accordingly Embarked for America, & arrived at Philada. in the last month.

I shall just beg leave to observe to your Excellency that altho' my Endeavours have not be crowned with success owing to the Critical situation of Holland at the time with England, yet no steps were left untryed on my part & my sollicitude & anxiety in this business have been beyond what I have ever before Experienced, & my health & fortune greatly impared by a business which I undertook in obedience to the Commands of the Honble. Council & Assembly.

I trust however my well meant endavours for the service of Pennsylvania will meet with its approbation, & perhaps be thought sufficient to give me a Claim to its future protection & attention; This I am the more induced to hope for from the obliging letter I have received from your Excellency in Council dated 27th of last March* which was delivered to me by your order since my arrival from Europe, and here I cannot avoid just mentioning to your Excellency that my losses by the war & my Embarrassments in money matters owing to the present situation of the public Funds in which I had early placed a Considerable sum would make any favour or attention of the State peculiarly acceptable to me at this time.

I have the Honour to be,
with very great Respect your Excellency's,
most obedt. & most Humble Servant,
JAMES SEARLE.

His Excellency William Moore Esqr., President of the State of Pennsylvania Philadelphia.

Indorsed,

Read in Assembly August 15th, 1782.

N. & J. Vanstaphorst to James Searle, 1782.

No. 1.

Amsterdam, the 19th May, 1781.

Sir,

In consquence of our Conversation, and in order to satisfy to your desire by giving you our opinion about a Loan for the State of Pensilvania, we have in the first place the honour to assure you that as far as depends from us, we should willingly do all that is possible, to succeed in it according to your wishes & those of your respective Principals.

* See page 519.

From the very first beginning of the disputes with the Colonies, and Particularly since Congress, obliged to it by the Conduct of the English Government, thought proper to declare America free and Independant, we always wished that this new established Republic might have the best success, & that she would be soon acknowledged as a Soverain Power by all the other Powers of Europe.

It is therefore Sir, that we've always received all the American Gentlemen who 've done us the honour to apply to us, with much satisfaction, and some of them as you know as well in their private business as for the Service of their respective States supply'd with pretty Considerable Sums of money out of our own Cash.

On different occasions we've also made enquiries whether it should be possible to make a loan in this Country, either for Congress, or for any Private Province, but hitherto, Sir, we've found ourselves obliged to give the Gentlemen little hopes, and therefore dissuaded them always to try it for as yet, since we've found so much anxiety among our People in General & even among the friends of America and those who wish as well as we do ourselves, prosperity to it, that we saw no Possibility of getting any sum of money that would be worth while, and we were always of opinion and are still so, that in such case it is better not to undertake the matter than to try it in vain or without the desired success.

This is the reason that we are sorry to see, at least as it appears to us, that the Loan which Mr. Adams has opened at the House of Messrs De Neufville has as yet so little Confluence, tho' we have told it his Excellency before, we are glad Sir, that you yourself being here are able to judge that what we say is true, and if you think it proper, you may be still more convinced, thereof by others. As we may then Conclude that you are convinced of our affections & good Intention for the Concerns of your principals and that before you have addressed yourself to us, you have been informed of the Reputation & affection, which thank God our persons & House of Commerce do enjoy by the Inhabitants of our City & Country, by which we are enabled as well as any other House to perform such an affair, we are under the necessity to tell you (tho' we are sorry to mention it) that we have no views to bring it to perfection as yet, thus we are necessitated to dissuade you of giving any positive orders there about, either to us or any body else.

However as Circumstances since the month of December last underwent great alterations, and as it seems to us great steps are taken from time to time to bring this republick in nearer Connexion with the North American Colonies, so that it should easily happen that the United States of North America were acknowledged by the States General of these United Provinces as a free and independant Power, and that upon this footing was treated with the same, which with many Patriotick Individuals we are heartly wishing that soon may be the Case, it might of Course be very possible and probably very easy then to execute the General Negotiation for Congress, as

well as the Particular Loans for the Provinces, and in such a Case, Sir, we should like to be of the first to give open proofs of our Zeal and good intention, by which at the same time our Particular Concerns as Merchants who are desirous to Push themselves forward in the North American Trade & Commerce would be promoted. If therefore you shou'd think proper to Communicate us your power or authority, and at the same time the acts of the State of Pensilvania relating this affair, we could in the mean time examine the same if they are in such an order and form, that when the Business should Exist, no objection would be met with, & as you have told us that it is your Intention to return to America, you can if you please give us the necessary Power of Attorney, and also a prescript in what manner to dispose of the Money for the Service of your Principals, but in case you should not Incline to do this, then you might leave your Power with Mr. Adams, recommending his Excellency at the same time to make use of our House in this affaire, as you may be assured that we shall execute this business and all others you may be pleased to trust us with, as well as any body else; with respect to the terms or Conditions it is impossible to fix them before hand, however we dare assure you that they'll not be more prejudicial and the Interest not higher than those consented for the Congress; when one will be sure that the full sum of the Intended Loan shall be compleated, one must contract with the undertakers or subscribers of the Negotiation and make it their Interest to promote the Business, for which unavoidably a premium (or what is called here remedium) must be allowed, which however we do think will not be great: and with regard to our Commission we are ready to regulate ourselves to Custom and what will be found reasonable.

This we hope Sir will answer to the Purpose, & according to your Intentions, if not we beg you'll let us know your further wishes. In the mean time recommending ourselves to the continuance of your worthy Friendship, we have the honour to be with kind salutations, most respectfully, Sir,. (Copy.)

Indorsed.—1782, rec'd Aug. 20, from N. & J. Van Staphorst, to James Searle, Esq.

No. 2.

Amsterdam, the 25th July, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Since you are desirous to have from us by writing a more Particular Explanation than we had the honour of giving you the 19th May last by form of a letter, about the manner of making Loans or Negotiations in this Country, we'll now try to give you as full an Idea or Intelligence of it as we are able to do, which we hope at the same time will answer to your Intentions.

In the first place you'll please to observe Sir, that we've a kind of Brokers or Merchants, which we call *Obligatie Kopers*, whose chief business is to deal in the funds, by purchasing and selling always

Bonds of almost every sort of Loans or Negotiations, according to the market prices. These Gentlemen have their Correspondents in every principal Town of the Different Provinces, to which the Capitalists apply for employ of their money, by which means you'll perceive that they have a great Influence in this Branch of Business, and particularly so when a Loan or Negotiation is proposed, as they have a sort of Contract amongst one another that either of 'em shall take such a part or share in all the negotiations they may engage for.

This is the reason Sir, wherefore it's always Customary and even the Treasurers of our States General in the Different Towns generally practice it for government when a negotiation is intended, to employ those Gentlemen and to make them the proposals of it, who, when they like them, undertake the whole sum or part of it, and engage themselves to furnish the money upon such terms & times as they agree together, and the most part of them being valuable people & men of honour & repute, one can firmly depend upon their engagements, while without their assistance it is always very difficult if not Impossible to come through with any Considerable Negotiation. By which you may conclude the necessity of Employing those people, since by their Influence, as we observed above, they are able to encourage or discourage the matter as they please.

On their undertaking any Loan or engaging for the money you can easily imagine, that they have a good Idea of it and that they flatter themselves of placing all the Bonds, however as they can be mistaken, as has been the case with sundries Negotiations, particularly so for Suriname and our other Colonies, of which many Bonds or obligations have remained them, and they are however to procure the money they always enjoy a Premium, or as it is generally called a Remédium, which naturally is proportionated to the risk or appearance of success of the Loan, and goes from 1, to 2 or 3, and even more per Cent. This Remedium, we do Confess, seems to be a great object, considering however the certainty of getting the whole sum compleated at the limited Terms, & calculated upon the whole time of the Negotiation, it will prove the Contrary. Let us give an Example.

Supposing then that the State of Pennsylvania was to Negociate a sum of money for 10 years at 5 ℔ Ct, it makes	50 ℔ Ct.
The remedium we do suppos 2 ℔ Cent once,	2
Commission for receiving, &c.,	1
Item for pay^s off the Capital,	1
Item for Paying the yearly Interest, &c., $\frac{5}{10000}$,	½
For charges or Expences, as there are the Seals of the Bonds, the Notary, Brokerage, &c., we suppose	1½
its in 10 years,	56 ℔ Ct.
and annually,	$5\frac{6}{10}$ ℔ Ct.

This we think will be sufficient to give you a full Idea of the whole matter, we do lament much that the present Circumstances do not permit as yet to put it in execution, but wish it may soon be the case when matters are altered a little, and then we flatter ourselves that we should be able to make a loan on the above mentioned Terms or nearly there about, tho' it is Impossible to fix it before hand, which we beg you will always remember.

But in Case the State of Pensilvania, by your Intercession, should think proper to favour us with the Commission, you may depend upon it, Sir, that we'll do all that lays in our power for the best of their Interest and to give you honour and satisfaction of your Recommendation.

We remain with the utmost respect.

Indorsed.—1782, Aug. 20, rec'd N. & J. Van Staphorst to J. Searle.

Gen. Wm. Irvine to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Fort Pitt, July 25th, 1782.

Sir,

The destruction of Hannas Town put the people generally into great confusion for some days; the alarm is partly over, and some who fled are returning again to their places; others went entirely off. I have got the Lieutenant of the County and others prevailed on to encourage some of the Inhabitans to re-occupy Hannas Town, by keeping a Post or small Guard there.

Inclosed is duplicates of the attestations of all the men enlisted here; the success in Recruiting was so bad, and the men also ordinary, that I thought it most prudent to desist—several of those Enlisted turned out to be Deserters, one in particular from our own line, who I instantly Executed, which I hope will deter others. Perhaps before Winter some few better men may be got. Mr Hoofnagle informed me he had provided some provision (on a Contract with Council) for a Ranging Company and some Militia ordered by Col. Cook—and being in an extreme pinch for Cash, applied to me; and as there was no immediate purpose the Recruiting money could be applied to, I let him have one hundred & thirty-seven pounds.—He promised to bring me your Excellency's order or replace the money, neither of which has been done. I beg to have your Excellency's pleasure in the matter, that in case you should not think proper to place it to his account and give me Credit, I may immediately look to him for it.

The remainder shall be either kept till a proper time to begin Recruiting again—or disposed off as you think proper to direct.

I have the honor to be, With great Respect, Sir,

Your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant,

Wm IRVINE.

His Excellency Wm Moore, Esquire.

Michael Huffnagle to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Fort Reed, July, 1782.

Sir,

I am sorry to inform your Excellency, that Last Saturday at two O'Clock in the afternoon, Hanna's Town was attack'd by about one hundred Whites & Blacks. We found several Jackets, the buttons mark'd with the King's eighth Regiment. At the same Time this Town was attack'd, another party attack'd Fort Miller, about four Miles from this Place. Hanna's Town & Fort Miller in a short Time where reduced to Ashes, about twenty of the Inhabitants kill'd and taken, about one hundred head of Cattle, a number of horses and hogs kill'd. Such wanton destruction I never beheld, burning and destroying as they went. The People of this Place behaved brave; retired to the Fortt, left their all a prey to the Enemy, & with twenty Men only, & nine guns in good order, we stood the attack 'till dark. At first, some of the Enemy came close to the Pickets, but where soon oblidg'd to retire farther off. I cannot inform you what Number of the Enemy may be kill'd, as wee see them from the Fortt carrying off severals.

The situation of the Inhabitants is deplorable, a number of them not having a Blanket to lye on, nor a Second Suit to put on their Backs. Affairs are strangely managed here; where the fault lies I will not presume to say. This Place being of the greatest consequence to the Frontiers, to be left destitute of Men, Arms & ammunition is surprising to me, although frequent applications have been made. Your Excellency I hope will not be offended my mentioning that I think it would not be amiss that proper inquiry should be made about the management of the Public affairs in this County; and also to recommend to the Legislative Body to have some provision made for the Poor distress'd People here. Your known humanity convinces me that you will do every thing in your power to assist us in our distress'd situation.

I have the Honor to be your Excellency's
most obt. Hble. Servt.,
MICH. HUFFNAGLE.

Indorsed,—July 30, 1782.
Directed,
His Excellency William Moore, Esqr., Presidt., Philadelphia.

Wm. Atlee to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Lancaster, the 30th July, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the honour to inclose to Council the Copy's of a number of examinations which I have taken respecting a Robbery perpetrated on Friday last on the great Road, leading from Philadelphia to Lancaster.

As the destruction of public property, with design to distress our armies, seems the principal object with these villians, tho' in the present case they have carried off a large quantity of valuable goods belonging to individuals, I think it my duty to give Council the earliest information of the facts which I have been able to collect respecting this business, that such measures may be taken to prevent an increase of strength to this dangerous gang, & a further prosecution of their designs, as Councill shall think will be most proper.

None of the Persons whose examinations I have taken seem to know the men who have committed this crime: tho' the suspicions of the neighbours, I am told, are strong against a certain Thos Buller & one Pile, who are both of Chester county & may be known to Major Beatton (who was attacked & made prisoner by them while they plundered the waggons) as he is an inhabitant of Chester county. I have not yet seen him to have his account of the transaction; but shall persist in my enquiry's & shall give Council every intelligence I may get possessed of which may lead to discover & detect these daring plunderers.

A number of the Inhabitants of the part of the Country adjacent to the place where the Robbery was done, were out in search of these fellows, the morning after the transaction, but I have not yet heard of their success.

I have the honour to be,
Sir, Your most obed. Servant.
WILLm ATLEE.*

Directed,
His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the State of Pennsylvania.
℞ Joseph Patten.

Examination of Archibald Henderson, 1782.

Examination of Archibald Henderson the younger of Salsbury Township, Lancaster County, taken the 28th of July, 1782.

The said Archibald Henderson saith—On Thursday, the 25th instant, I was engaged in Philada by Joseph Patton to take a Load of continental property from Philada to Lancaster—I on that Day took into my waggon a Hogshead of Cloathing, four Barrels of Vinegar & a Bale of Blankets belonging to the public, & had in my waggon some Sugar and Coffee & some small articles of private property. My waggon left Philadelphia on Thursday Eve about five o'Clock, having Jacob Miller of Pequea as a Passenger, I proceeded to the Valley Hill, on the Lancaster Road, & on Friday Evening last, between 5 & 6 o'Clock, near the 38 Mile stone, Mr. Bedwell had walked forward—I saw two men coming towards us, my waggon was three or four Rods before Mr. Johnston's—Jacob

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 338.

Miller was asleep in it—one of the two men, the little man, came & took my Horse by the head & lead him towards the woods—I ran up & asked him where he was going with the Horses—he pointed a Pistol towards me & said if I would say a word he would blow my Brains out—Jacob Miller then awoke & was coming off of the waggon—the man ran up to him & presented two Pistols to him, & told him if he came down he would blow his Brains out—I heard the other man behind swearing to Mr. Johnson that if he touched a Tree or a Saplin in driving he wou'd blow his Brains out—the little man took the leading Horse by the head and led him on, & ordered me to drive on the others—we came to the place where Mr. Bedwell was, & he told Bedwell to walk along side of him & told me to drive after him as fast as I cou'd & not hitch on a Tree for if I did he wou'd shoot my Horse & myself too—we came to a little clear place about fifty Rods off the Road—he told me to turn the Horses round & let the tail of the waggon stand down the Hill—& told Johnson to drive along side of me—I was then standing by the tail of my waggon & he told me to stand back—he then pulled off the end gate from the tail of my waggon—told me to throw out the Blanketing—before I had time to get on my waggon he s^d to Jacob Miller (who was still in it) you big son of a bitch throw them out—Miller then rolled out the Bale of Blankets—when the Blankets came out the tall man said that belongs to the continental Bougres—they then ordered the Vinegar Barrels to be rolled out—we rolled one out that did not break—the tall man then got a stone & knocked in the head of it—the others were rolled out & stove except one which remained—they then ordered the Hogshead of Cloathing to be rolled out—it did not break—the little man with a stone knocked the Hoops off & knocked the head out—they took part of the cloathing out & throw'd them in a heap—they said these will do us no good, & as they belong to the continental Bougres we will burn them—they then went from my waggon to Johnson's waggon—the little man went into Johnson's waggon & saw Lead in the fore part of it—this says he, is to kill the Indians—he then took up a Keg—this, says he, is Powder to go with the Lead & threw the Keg from him as far as he cou'd—the head flew out & show'd that it was Tea—the other s^d Damn the odds, this is what began the warr—he then went to the hind part of the waggon & pushed two Boxes out of it—before they began to unload the waggons the tall man went up to the Road & after he was gone a little time I heard a Pistol go off & presently he brought Major Beaton with him & his Horse—he tied Major Beaton's hands behind his back & made him sit down—they then opened the Boxes—the little man carried two armfulls of goods away into the woods, one to the left hand, and the other to the right—the big man in the mean time guarded us with two Pistols—the little fellow then asked us if we were not dry, & took us one by one to a spring to drink—about this time an old man who was gather-

ing Herbs appeared just at the edge of the cleared place—the big man ran to him and told him to stand & brought him and placed him with us—they then began to fill two Bags with goods out of a Chest from Mr. Johnson's waggon—the little fellow filled his Pockets with snuff Boxes and such articles—any thing they did not choose to take they kicked away—while they were filling the Bags the big man went towards the Spring—I at that time saw a Man on a Sorrel Horse a few Rodds from the Spring, & the big Man talking to him.—I could not hear what they said, & do not know the man who was on Horseback—he had a long quaker like coat on, buttoned, & a round Hatt, & was without a Saddle.—The man on Horseback went away, & the big Man return'd; they then took some Brush handles from Johnson's Waggon—the little one then put a peg in the touchhole of his Pistell—took some pieces of paper & some Tow, & snapped his Pistel & made a fire—putting on light staff & the Brush handles—when the fire burnt he throwed the Coats on it—saying he knew the soldiers had need for them, but it made no odds as they were damned Rebels—they burnt the Hogshead with the remainder of the Cloths likewise—they then rummaged the Boxes from Johnson's wagon again & finding a parcel of Handkerchiefs with Gen' Washington stamped on them, they kicked them about, saying they wou'd burn the d——d son of a bitch too if they had him. They put the Handkerchiefs then into a Bag—they then tied the Baggs—one of them then rolled the Bale of Blankets to the fire & put a stick against it that it might be kept to the fire—after this they came to us & told us not to discribe them & that if we did they would catch us going up & down the Road—& if we stirred from that spot for a quarter of an Hour after they were gone they would shoot our Horses and ourselves too—they said they knew Johnson and knew me & if I said any thing about them they wou'd not leave me a Horse—& told us not to take any thing away, nor speak a word about the matter for four hours—they went away then & took the Baggs with them. I heard one of them say that he had rode up the Road with a continental officer, who had told him of the waggons & their loading—I had not seen either of these men on the Road before they met us on the Hill, nor in Philadelphia—I noticed them after the sweat and labour had taken the black off of their faces—they are such men as are described in the examination of Bedwell & Johnson—I don't know either of them—I think I have seen them, but dont know when or where— I never saw Tho's Buller or Pile, and dont know if it was them or not—one of the Teeth of the little Man, before stood out further than the others & a little across them.

And further saith not

(Signed) ARCHIBALD HENDERSON.

(Copy.)

Sworn & subscribed the 28th July, 1782, Before me,

W. ATLEE.

Examination of Jacob Miller, 1782.

The Examination of Jacob Miller of Salsbury Township in Lancaster County, Joiner—the 29th July, 1782.

The said Jacob Miller saith—On Friday last in the afternoon between 5 & 6 o'Clock as I think, I was in a waggon of Archibald Henderson's coming up from Philadelphia, near the 38 mile Stone on the Lancaster Road—had been asleep in the waggon. The waggon turned off the Road & seemed as if it wou'd oversett, which awakened me—I jumped up & looked out—saw a fellow with his face blackened having hold of the horses—the fellow when he saw me came to me & presented two Pistols to me, and said he wou'd blow my Brains out if I stirred a step—I upon that kept in the waggon & saw another man with his face blackened having hold of the Horses of Johnsons' waggon which was a little behind—they took the waggons into the woods swearing that if the drivers ran against any Saplin or Tree, they would blow their Brains out—took the waggons to a Clear spot at some distance from the Road—they then tore out the end gate of Hendersons waggon—and tore out a Bale of Blankets—they then told Archibald Henderson to get up & throw out the Load—he refused & said they might do it themselves—they then ordered me to throw the things out—I was obliged to obey their orders & rolled some Barrels of Vinegar forward, which broke when the Vinegar was out they made me roll out the Hogshead with the cloathing in—when the Hogshead fell down the little Man took a stone & knocked in the head & took it out—he then pulled out a quantity of the Cloathing—he then called me a dam'd Hessian Bougre & bid me come down—when I came down he presented his Pistols to me & made me pull out more of the Cloaths—they then made me go towards the other waggon—the little fellow then went into Johnson's waggon & threw some goods out—he met with a Keg which he said was Powder to go against the Indians—he threw it out & it broke & appeared to be Tea—upon which the big fellow said damn it this begun the Warr—after some time the big fellow went up to the Road, we presently heard a gun fired & directly after he returned & brought Major Beatton with him who was tied and made to sit down—they took out the Goods & put them in Baggs—the little fellow filled his Pockets with small articles & went sometimes to the woods—I heard some talking in the woods but saw none but the two men—about sunset the little fellow made a Fire by snapping his Pistol to some Tow & putting some light wood & some Brush handles together—he then put the Hogshead to the fire & throw'd the Cloathing on, saying that the damned poor Rebels wanted the Cloathing bad enough, but it was no matter—during these transactions they catched an old man by the Hill side & brought him down to us—they also rolled the Bale of Blankets to

the fire & put a stick against it to keep it to the fire—they did not burn any thing but the public property—they then made us promise not to stir for a quarter of an hour & not to say any thing for four Hours after—they said they knew us all well enough & threatened that if we described them, they would burn and destroy every thing we had—they then went away on foot—I presently heard the feet of Horses ratling along towards our left—I don't know either of them, not never saw either of them before to my knowledge—I don't know Thos Baller nor Pile—I did not hear them call each other by any Name—the little man had four Pistols in his Belt & two in his Hands—& the big man had four Pistols that I saw—they damned us for Rebels & said this was only the beginning in satisfaction for Fitz who was hanged—they said they wou'd be revenged for him—before they went off they took the Saddle & Bridle from Major Beatton's Horse & let him run, & told the Major that he should not ride.

And further saith not

(Signed) JACOB MILLER.

(Copy.)

Sworn & subscribed the 29 July, 1782, Before me

W. ATLEE.

—

Examination of Thomas Bedwell, 1782.

The Examination of Thomas Bedwell of the City of Philadelphia Dealer—taken the 28th July 1782.

The said Thomas Bedwell saith that on the Evening of Friday the 26th instant, on the Valley Hill near the 38 mile stone, he was coming with two Waggons in company with John Johnson up the Valley Hill on the Philadelphia Road—was a passenger in one of the waggons—had got to the top of the Hill & was about a hundred yards a head of the Waggons—saw 2 men sitting on a log by the road side with their Heads down resting on their Hands—had passed those men a few yards—heard them running after him—was ordered to stop—they came up to him—showed him under their Cloaths some large Pistols with brass Barrels—their faces were blackened—they said they had waited for him some time—he said he believed they were mistaken as to him—they ordered him out of the Road into the Woods—he went—as soon as they had him well out of sight, they took off his Garter & bound his Hands behind him—they each put a Pistol to his side & obliged him to retire further into the woods—the waggons now rose the brow of the Hill—one of them staid with him a short time—the other went towards the waggons & returned again & then they put him up against a Tree & interrogated him as

to the loading of the waggons, particularly as to what money was in them—he could not tell the loading—they then charged him to continue there on pain of being shot, after he had told them that Mr Johnson had some money of his to keep for him—they said they belonged to a larger gang and wanted nothing but public property & would return all private property again or would not touch it—they then left him & went towards the waggons—they brought the waggons to where he was, with their drivers and another Passenger named Jacob Miller—they then proceeded with us about a quarter of a mile further into a deep hollow where there was a clear spot of Ground, taking the waggons along—they there ordered the waggoners to unload—several Barrels of vinegar were thrown out and stove to pieces—they got out a Hogshead with clothing for the army, a large Bale of Blankets for the army & many other articles—also sundry valuable articles of merchandize belonging to Col. Swope, Mr Hay & Mr Billmeyer of York town, being marked for them—they opened all the packages as they came to the ground—they made up the articles of merchandize belonging to those Gentlemen in Bundles & carried them to the right & left of us into the woods, saying the owners were damned Rebels, always leaving one over us as a Guard—while they were unloading one of the two went to the Road after a Person who was seen riding there on Horseback—the report of a Gun or Pistol was soon after heard & presently that Person on horseback was brought to us—that Person he hears is called Major Beatton of Chester County—they tied his hands behind him & ordered him to join the rest of us—they then proceeded to unloading & examining the rest of the Goods presently after an old man was seen gathering Herbs in the woods—one of them went & brought him & made him join us—after they had carried off a considerable quantity of the Goods, they filled two Bags with silk Handkerchiefs, Jeans & other light articles & laid the Bags on the Ground—they then proceeded to make a fire of a number of Broom handles which were in the waggons (which they called flag staffs) & the Hogshead which the Cloathing was in—they then put the clothing all about it—they burnt all the Cloathing, saying it was a high satisfaction for them to burn it, as it was for the damned Rebels & wished they had a great deal more of it—while they were busyed about this they heard three other waggons go along the Road & lamented that we were not sufficiently secured to enable them to take the other three waggons—they seemed to be well acquainted with the loading of the waggons & that it was public property—they kept us in the woods till near dark & left us with an injunction not to stir for a quarter of an Hour on pain of being shot—about an hour before they went off, they rolled the bale of Blankets to the fire & sat that on fire with the rest—before they went away they apologized to us for their treatment of us, saying they were Friends to the King and his Government, were in the Country & were denied the means of

getting out of it, & had no other way to support themselves—he thinks he has seen one of those Persons in Philadelphia—one of them was a light made well proportioned man, with brown hair cut short had on a large french cocked Hat—a dyed fustian olive coloured Coat or Frock with outside pockets—a cordurey velvet Breeches of nearly the same colour—had a plain pair of silver Buttons in his sleeves of an oval form—had a small silver Broach in his Bosom set in Diamonds—their working had cleard their faces, so that he cou'd observe him to be a ruddy complexioned Person with a thin nose & thin Lips & rather sour countenance—The other was a tall well set man, dressed in a linnen Coat, Jacket & overalls which were tied round the small of the Leg—had brown hair tied behind—a pale complexion with an aqualine Nose.

And further saith not.

(Signed,) THO: BEDWELL.

Sworn and subscribed the 28th July 1782, before me.

W. ATLEE.

(Copy.)

—

Examination of John Johnson, 1782.

The Examination of John Johnson of the Town of Carlisle in Cumberland County, Tavernkeeper—taken the 28th July 1782.

The said John Johnson saith. On Friday last the 26th instant between the Hours of 5 & 6 o'clock in the Evening at the 88 mile stone on the Philadelphia Road, having a waggon with me loaded with goods for Mr. Swope, Mr. Hay & Mr. Billmeyer of Yorktown, & being in company with a waggon drove by Archibald Henderson two Men came to us—Mr. Henderson's waggon was foremost—the two men had their faces blacked & their Hair powdered—one of the men seized Mr. Henderson's leading horse—the other of the men presented two Pistols at my Breast—they were large Pistols with brass barrels—he had two other smaller Pistols at his Belt—he damned me to turn round and follow the other waggon immediately & said if I offered to stop or fasten upon any tree designedly he would blow my brains out—he took us down about a quarter of a mile from the Road to a small valley, where there was about an acre of Ground or some small piece cleared—he stopped Henderson's team and ordered me to drive mine up close along side of it—one of the men came up to me & presented his Pistols and ordered the other one to tie my hands behind my Back—when I was tied I looked round & saw Mr. Bedwell there tied—Mr. Bedwell was a passenger in my waggon from Philad'a—the largest of the two men left the other then as a Guard over us & went to the Road again—shortly after I heard a Pistol go off—shortly after he brought a Major Beaton of Chester county to the place where we was & tied his hands behind him and

ordered him to sit down—before the Major came they had ordered the man who was in Mr. Henderson's waggon to throw the lead out —while they were unloading that waggon there was an old man walking on the side of the Hill, who said he was looking for Herbs —one of the Robbers hailed him & brought him down to us, but did not tie him—the largest of the two men stood guard over us—the other went to work unloading the waggons—he went into the fore part of my waggon first—saw a parcel of Lead laying there, damn you (says he) this is to shoot the Indians—then he went to the hind part of the waggon & pitched out a large Box with Mr. Hay's name on it—after that he threw out another—then he found a little Keg & saying damn you this is the Powder to go with the Lead to kill the Indians he threw that out—it broke with the fall & he then s^d why damn it, it is Tea—the other made answer it makes no odds, it was that begun the Warr—then he threw out a Bag of Coffee which bursted open—I told him I could not see what service that behaviour would be to him, as he could not take it away—the other one told him then not to throw any more out till he would see what was in the Boxes—they then examined the Boxes and found Mr. Swopes & Mr Hay's name on them & said they knew them to be damned Rebels & knocked them open—when they had them open & saw that the Goods suited them, the little man took a Parcel & carried them to the left of where we were—came back & took another arm full & filled his Pockets with snuff Boxes, Tapes & other small articles & carried them to the right of where we were—then he returned and took another armfull & pocketfull & went to the left of us again—I then plainly heard him talk to somebody, as I thought about fifteen Rods distance from us among the Bushes—I did not see the Person he was talking to—then he returned & went to my waggon & took two Bags out, & filled the Bags with Holland, Cambricks, Lawns, Chintzes or Callicoes, & other fine articles—when he had the two Baggs filled he left them on the Ground & they were not taken away till they both went entirely off—Before they unloaded my team they ordered the waggoner of Mr. Henderson's Team to unload—four Barrels of Vineger were thrown out—they all stove but one—then a large Hogshead was thrown out, filled with soldiers Coats, blue faced with white, the buttons marked U. S.—& a large Bale of Blankets—the least of the two Robbers then came to my waggon & took away five Brush handles to the place where the Hogshead was laying—he then made a fire out of the Pan of one of his Pistols & kindled a fire—set these a fire round the Hogshead—some of the Cloaths were in it & some out—he then threw light stuff on it to make it burn—when they were about half burnt he rolled the Bale of Blankets close up to them & sat them on fire likewise—while he was burning these things he was damning Gen. Washington & the Rebels saying it was true the Soldiers had need of them but it made no odds as they were damned Rebels—the largest of the two men

came to me two or three different times & asked me if I knew him —I might have seen his face but did not choose to say much to him for fear—he said he knew me and asked me my name & said he knew where I lived & that I travelled the Road pretty often—he said that if ever I described him or one of them, they would take our life the first time we travelled the Road—he said it was some satisfaction to them for Fritz, what they had done but was not half what they would do & said they had a number of men & if they were collected they would go through the whole Country—we asked them if they wou'd untie us before they went away, as we saw them preparing to go off—they untied me & left the Major and Mr. Bedwell tied—neither Mr. Henderson nor Jacob Miller were tied during the whole transaction—they then charged us not to move from the place till a full quarter of an hour after they were gone on perill of our lives—we were there about three hours—it was night before they went away—they bid farewell to us—went away & took the two Bags with them—& I heard their Horses feet going directly towards that old mans House—one Coats I heard his name was—they told us that if we said anything of them for four Hours after we did go away that we should suffer for it—we went from the place about ten minutes after they were gone—enquired for a Magistrate—found that Squire Clingan was from home & proceeded on our Journey—I have seen the two men before—dont know where—with their work & wiping their faces they took the black off—one of them was a well made man about five feet eleven inches high—had brown coloured hair tied behind—a round beaver or fur Hatt—a white Coat linnen —with Jacket & overalls of the same tied in his Shoes—had a pair of oval pinchback Buckels in his shoes—he seemed full faced & rather of a swarthy colour—I think he is grey eyed & has a rounding roman Nose & is thin lipped—I could not see his teeth—the other was a man I think about five feet seven Inches high—well made & a straight little man—seemed of a fresh complexion thin nosed—had on a large french Hat cocked—had short hair—dark or brown coloured —had a fustian Coat on of a goslin or brownish colour—Breeches & Jacket of corded Velvet—rather darker—had a large pair of silver Kneebuckles & Shoebuckles of the same stuff—they appeared to be Silver—had white stockings on whether worsted or cotton I dont know—the Buckles were of a square form—while they were looking over the articles on the Ground, the little fellow met with a Package of Handkerchiefs, with Gen. Washington stamped on them—upon seeing the stamp, he said God damn him, if he was here we would burn him along with the cloaths—I told the biggest of the two men that I hoped they would not take any thing about ourselves—he said by no means—the little fellow then came to me and asked me for my money—I gave it to him tied in a linnen purse—he went away with it on pretence to get a drink—when they were going away I spoke to the big one & said that he had promised that nothing shou'd be taken from myself—he then ordered the little one to return my

money—he returned me my purse & I found upon examination that there was £7 15 5 gone out of it—it was all my own money—I had none in keeping for Mr. Bedwell but throw'd it into Mr. Bedwell's bundle as we came along—the big one had given me that Bundle as I claimed it when they were examining the waggon—I did not hear them call one another by their Names—they said one was Captain one day the other the next.

And further saith not.

(Signed,) JOHN JOHNSTON.

Sworn & subscribed the 28 July 1782, before me.

W. ATLEE.

(Copy.)

DAVID DUNCAN TO MR. CUNNINGHAM, MEMBER OF COUNCIL FROM LANCASTER, 1782.

Pittsburg, July 30th, 1782.

Dear Sir,

I have taken the Liberty of Writing you the Situation of our Unhappy Country at present. In the first place, I make no doubt But you have heard of the bad success of our Campaign against the Indian Towns, and the Late stroke the savages have gave Hannastown, which was all Reduced to ashes except two Houses, exclusive of a small Fort which happily saved all that were so fortunate to get to it. There were upwards of Twenty kill'd and taken, the most of Whom were Women & Children. At the same time, a small Fort four miles from thence was taken, supposed to be by a Detachment of the same Party. I assure you that the situation of the frontiers of our County is truly alarming at present, and worthy our most serious Consideration.

I am at much of a Loss to know what some men means that's Inhabitants of this County. I am sure I can't say they are all Friends to America from their actions and every of their Behaviour; they strain every sinews & Nerve to raise disputes; keep the people in Parties; these practices have been their greatest study ever since they have come to this side the Mountains, And *Mr. F.* is the very Man I mean; and by his Low Means and Deceitful insinuations, have got himself Elected for a Magistrate, by an Election that's altogether Contrary to Law. The Advertisements for the Election was set up the fifteenth and the Election held the Twentieth, which was only five days' Notice to Circulate through this Large Township; it was in the Middle of Harvest, a Time when People Could not attend; also for fear of the Indians, which was seen every day in some part or other of our Settlements. I hope you will Consider of these matters as you have the Commissioning of Magistrates in your Honorable House, and not Commission any Person 'till we have a New Election, And the Township to be laid

out in Districts. I hope you my'nt think hard of this mater, but that you'll please to grant us a fair Election, and an opportunity of Electing some good Man in for so Material a Post; you well know that no good man would be a mover of sedition, making parties and raising Divisions among the Ignorant part of the people, in order to serve themselves.

F. and B. have laid some plans before they have left this place, but I could Wish Council may be carefull what attention they give to these two designing men as these two is. I am not in the secret of their plan, but I am sure if any Petition be offered by them, it will be to serve themselves and not their Country.

I make no Doubt but you will be informed of a Campaign that's to be carried against the Indians by the middle of the Next month. Genl. Irvine is to Command; I have my own doubts.

I have the Honor to be

y^r Hble. and Ob^t Servt,

DAVID DUNCAN*

Directed,

Honb^l——————Cunningham, Esqr, Member of Council from Lancaster, Philadelphia.

Capt. Chambers.

Gov. Harrison of Virginia to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Virginia, In Council, August 1st, 1782.

Sir,

I have received your favor by the last Post† and have appointed Colo. Joseph Nevill as a Surveyor on the part of this State to extend the boundary Line of the two States, agreeable to the Resolution of our Assembly, and have ordered one hundred Militia from the County of Hampshire to attend them as a Guard.

You may assure yourself the business shall be forwarded as much as possible by me, but from what I have heard yesterday, I am apt to think the people in that part of the Country will endeavour to obstruct it. If the force ordered should not be sufficient to keep them in awe, I will send more.

I have the Honor to be

your Excellency's

most Obed^t humble Servt,

BENJ. HARRISON.‡

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 351.

† Not Found.

‡ See pp. 562, 585.

Resolution of Congress, 1782.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

August 8, 1782.

Resolved,

That it be recommended to the States of Pennsylvania and Virginia immediately to draw out and order to Fort Pitt each state one hundred and fifty Men properly officered and accoutered to be under the Orders of the Commanding officer of that Post to enable the said officer more effectually to cover and protect the Country.

That the Secretary at War and Superintendant of finance take order that proper Magazines be laid up in the said fort which may enable the commanding officer in case the said post should be invested by the Enemy to render it tenable until relieved.

Extract from the minutes.

CHA. THOMSON, Secy.

Indorsed,—Read in Council, Aug. 13th, 1782, & orders issued accordingly.*

Pres. Moore to Gov. Livingston of N. J., 1782.

Philada., August 6, 1782.

Sir,

By the Confession of Jesse Vickars† now under sentence of death for having robbed one of the Treasurers of the County of Bucks, and by the confession of his brother Solomon, it appears, that two men of the name of Woodward who live near Crosswicks in your state, have been accomplices in the robbery of the treasury of that county, and that a certain Caleb Paul, also an accomplice in the same robbery, is now confined in the goal of the county of Monmouth, under another name. The Council are not possessed of a sufficient description of Paul, and have therefore ordered Mr. Forst sub-sheriff of the County of Bucks, to endeavour to obtain it and transmit it herewith to your Excellency.

If Caleb Paul can be found, or the Woodwards taken, I beg you will please to order them to be delivered up to this state in such manner as shall be most agreeable to you.

I am with great regard

your Excellency's

most obedient servant.

Directed,

His Exc'y, Govr. Livingston.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p 347.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 342, 343, 344.

No. 1—Relating to Robbery of Bucks Co. Treasury, 1782.

To the honorable William Moore, Esquire, President & others the members of the supreme executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The representation of the Persons whose names are undersigned sheweth,

That as Jesse Vickers who was lately convicted of Burglary at a Court of Oyer & Terminer held at Newtown in & for y[e] County of Bucks, & has received sentence of Death for the same, has since that time acknowledged guilt & Discovered several of his accomplices in villainy, some of whom have been apprehended & committed to Jail; and as it is very probable that other persons are associates in the late Robberies committed besides those already detected, & other convictive circumstances may be unfolded against those already in confinement if a little respite from the sentence of death be given to the aforenamed convicted person which advantages may be lost by a speedy execution. We cannot help humbly expressing it as our judgement that real benefit may arise to the public if y[e] execution of Jesse Vickers should be for a time deferred.

We are Gentlemen with the utmost respect yours &c.,

James Grier,
W. McCalla,
Jos. Thomas,
William Hart,
Daniel Thomas,
Robt. Gibson, Jr.,
Josias Ferguson,
Thos. Dyer.

Directed,

The honorable William Moore and the Members of the supreme executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Indorsed,—August 7th, 1782.

No. 2—Confession of Jesse Vickars.

People Concerned in Robbing of the Treasury of Newtown.

Ned Connard & his Brother, (name not known,) a Blacksmith, in Maryland.

Caleb Paul & John Paul, sons of James Paul, near Grahm Park, Warminster Township.

Caleb Paul is now in Monmouth County Gaol. Told so by Joseph Tombleson, While the jury was out on his Tryal under a

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 338, 339, 340, 342, 348, 349. Pardoned 373.

fictitious name, farther told him that before he was put into Goal, the said Paul was apprehended in Jersey as a suspicious Person, upon searching, found about 60 or 70 Dollars with him, but had address sufficient to knock down the Gard & make his escape, with the loss of his Horse & Saddle.

John Tombleson harberd them & supplied them with Victuals at this time, as well as for a year or two before & received a 140 hard Dollars, & a Quantity of State money for his share; as mentioned in his former Confession that he had frequently saw Refugees at his House, that he blieves him to be one of the principal persons in forming the plan for Robbing the Treasury, that he frequently waited on John Atkinson in Newtown for information; concerning the sums of money in the Treasury, & suitable time for attacing it; that a few days before the said Robbery he was at John Tombleson & went with John to his Barn that he there saw Six or Seven Guns & Moses & Aaron Dones cleaning the said guns & making Catrages & Bullets.

After they had finish'd making their Catrages, &c., they came in to the House & got their Dinners & he Dined with them, that at this time John Tombleson & the two Dones pressed him to go with them to Rob the Treasury, which, he refused being fearful, and told them it was dangerous, that there was a Gard over the Treasury. Tombleson replied that he had a man in Town that acquainted him with every thing that passed in Newtown. Tombleson brought a Gun lock to Atkinson to mend two Days before the Treasury was Robed, that he frequently saw Refugees that was concerned in the said Robbery as well as others harberd at his House, and likewise British Prisoners concealed there & further says that he has reason to believe Joseph Tombleson son to John Tombleson knew of the Robery of the Treasury altho' he never spoke with him upon the subject, nor does he think drew any share, he heard some of the Company say he did not—that he dont know that Marget Tombleson wife of John Tombleson was acquainted with their intention, but from circumstances thinks it impossible but she must.

Amos White of Buckingham—frequently harbered numbers of Refugees, and the Sunday before the Robery of Treasury, delivered flints to Maylon Done which he had purchased in Phila. for him, which flints were used on that expedition, and further saith, that he dont know of his certain knowledge, that he received a share, or was acquainted with their Plot before the Robbery but is convinced from circumstances that has happened since that he was acquainted with it, that since the Robbery, about the first of June last White concealed a Quantity of Goods for Moses Done.

Moses Winder—was acquainted with their intention of Robbing the Treasury that he had conversed with him about it, that Winder who was himself a Collector ingaged to carry in his money & to acquaint them when there was a sufficient quantity of money in the Treasury for them to make the attact,—the first Plan was to Rob Winder when he should have his money Collec'ed but Winder

alter'd his mind, and urged the other plan. Winder got 30 Dollars paid by Moses Done, althe' he queried with Done why Winder did not get more as he thinks at the Distribution he was allowed almost a whole share; Winder was not with them at the Robbery; he went into Jersey, he further saith, that since he was apprehended upon suspicion of that Robbery he broke Goal, & in Company with Aaron Done went to Winders house, Winder told them he was sorry they had not come a little sooner for that Cap. Stillwell his Neighbour had just received a large sum of money (near £200) to pay the militia, and he might easily be Robed of it, that he knew he had no arms in his House, for he had reconiter'd him for that purpose; Done & him was at Winders House all Night; he knew Winder to have harber'd those Dones and their Companions ever since the British was in Phila. he says he heard Winder say he knew that Saml. Burns a Refugee did steal two Horses & carry them into Philada. he thinks the Horses belonged to a Mr. Kirbreght; Winder told him so.

Joseph Doan Senr. of Plumstead.—He dont know that this man was acquainted with their intention before the Robbery, but is positive that he was acquainted with it after it was done, that he borrow'd £25 of the money of his son Moses, he heard him advise his sons to leave the place for that the Robbery of the Treasury had made a great disturbance & that they would certainly be found out, they mentioned there was no danger—he knew him tohave harber'd his sons & their Companions ever since the British were in Phila. Between two & three months ago he was at the House of Joseph Doan Senr. where he saw Moses & Aaron Doan and with them a man who they told him was from Chester County his name he has forgot, he was a large stout well made fellow and remarkebly active, Doan told him, that this fellow lately Robbed a mail in Chester County under pretence of giving a letter to the postrider seized the man & pull'd him of his Horse, Doan told him that this fellow got a number of Guineas for Robbing the mail.

Joseph Tombleson of Writstown the 2d—was acquainted with the intention of Robbing the Treasury several Days before the Robbery the Pauls told him so & he has other reasons to believe so—that he received 40 hard Dollars for his share from Moses Doan—that he knew Doan to have been harber'd at his House frequently with many other Refugees & British Deserters, and to have consealed one British Deserter for three weeks, that was taken near the Cowpens in Carolina till Moses Doan came & pilited him to New York,—about a Year & a half ago Joseph Tombleson first recommended to Moses Doan & himself the Plan of Robbing Collectors &c.,

Solomon Vicars.—Was along at the Robbery of the Office, that he got his share of 140 hard Dollars, that he was Centinel at Mr. Hart's the Treasurer's house, at the Back part of it, he did not come in front lest Mr. Hart should know him; that he has been several times with them at John Tombleson's.

John Atkinson, of Newtown—Was acquainted with the intention of Robbing the Treasury, that he informed John Tombleson that there was no Gard at the Treasury, & that there was a considerable sum of money then in the Treasury, that he repaired a Gun Lock for them for the expedition, that he received 20 hard Dollars for his share from Moses Doan, that he gave it to him some place where Atkinson was burning a Coal Kiln.

Robt Steel, George Burns, two Woodwards, of Jersey, near Crosswicks.	Were present at the Robbery of the Office.
Aaron Doan, Moses Doan, George Sinclair,	Was present at the Robbery of the Office.
Maylon Doan, Jeremiah Cooper.	said Cooper pilated the Woodwards from Jersey. All received full Shares, 140 hard Dollars.

N. B. Jesse Vicars says he frequently saw the Hessian Doctr at John Tombleson's, and he appeared to be very intimate with Tombleson.

Robbery of Collectors.—Jesse Vicars was at John Tombleson's, and John told him that he had bribed Capt. Ralph Williamson, who was a Collector of militia fines, and that Tombleson & Capt. Williamson had agreed that when Williamson should collect about 80 Pounds, John Tombleson was to send two Fellows to Rob him, & Williamson was to be absent at the Shoemaker's, that Col. Hart came to Williamson's house the afternoon before he was to have been Robbed, that he hurried the money to the office, Williamson went to John Tombleson and told him that old Hart, the Damnd Rascal, had come and carried the money to the office, but that he had near £30 more to Collect, & he would collect it as soon as possable and Acquaint him with it, and in some time after Williamson did acquaint Tombleson that he had collected near £25—and John Tombleson sent Moses Doan & some other person, who took the money from Williamson's wife Williamson was at the Shoemaker's, and afterwards divided it between John Tombleson, Doan & his accomplice, & Williamson, Williamson got the largest share. Tombleson complained that he cheated them.

Moses Doan & George Sinclair.—Robed Groover of Sundry Goods & money left in his possession by a Pedlar—Moses Doan himself told me so.

About three months ago Moses Doan told me that the Hessian Doctr, Henry Myres, promised to furnish him with a case of Pistols, which Doan was going for that evening.

ROBBERY OF JOB BARTON, COLLECTOR OF BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP.—Robt. Steel, Aaron Doan, Jesse Vicars, Ware the persons that committed this Robbery. We started from John Tombleson's House, the plan was concerted there with the assistance of John Tombleson. We got near 40 pounds from Barton. Tombleson got his full share.—John Tombleson first mentioned the affair to me, and persuaded me to go with them, told me that if I would go & shew them the Road they would not ask me to do any thing more, that I carried no Arms, but stood at a Distance in the Garden while the other two committed the Robbery.

ROBBERY OF JOHN KEITH, COLLECTOR, UPPER MAKEFIELD.—I was innocent of this Robbery, & was not at the House that Night. Aaron Doan told me that it was him & his Brother Moses that committed that Robbery, and that it was him, Aaron, that went thro' the House.

Moses & Aaron ware the men that stole two Horses from James & Israel Anderson, of Buckingham Township, last Spring, the Doans acknowledged it to me.

Joseph Tombleson (son of John Tombleson) and Moses Doan stole William Simpson's Gray Stallion, swam him across Delaware, took him Down into the Pines, but were disappointed in getting him off.

Jesse Vicars Was present at the Robbery of the Treasury—John Tombleson first acquainted him with the intention of Robbing the Treasury of Newtown—Moses & Aaron Doan ware cleaning Gunns at the Barn when Tombleson took me to the Barn to them, the party stayed two or three Days about John Tombleson's House & Barn & Woods near, before they went to Rob the Treasury. On Saturday before the Robbery I went to Newtown with John Tombleson, to get John Atkinson to mend a Gun Lock. Which he did. The Monday Night following we Rob'd the Treasury, Moses Doan rode thro' the Town to see if the coast was clear, call'd at John Atkinson's, but did not see John, came thro' the Town, surrounded Mr. Hart's (the Treasurer's) House—I stood Centinel at the Gate, while Steel, Doans, Woodards & Pauls went in & presented a Pistol to Mr. Hart's Breast & made him deliver up the money & Key of the Office—Woodard carried the Key of the Office from Mr. Hart's House to the Office—that we went from Newtown to Writestown School House, Where we divided the money, there was Sixteen or Seventeen full Shares, Which was near 140 Dollars hard, and about as much State money a Share & several other Shares from 20 to 40 Dollars, Given to Winder, Atkinson, & Joseph Tombleson—we were supplied with Victuals by John Tombleson for two Days before the Robbery.

Indorsed.—1782, August 7th, Confession of Jesse Vickars, now under sentence of death, at Newtown. Taken before James Tate & Daniel Forst.

No. 3—Confession of Solomon Vickers.

I was with the party that Night the Treasury of Newtown was robbed, I was placed Centinal at Back of the House, Steel went into the House first, Woodwards & Paul follow'd, I followed the party from Mr. Hart's House to the Office, was placed Centinal by the corner of the Goal over an inhabitant who we met; when we left Newtown we went to Writestown School House, where we divided the money. I was not in the House when the money was divided, I don't know how many Shares there was, but believe there was 14 or 15. I got for my share between 130 & 140 hard Dollars & about Sixty State Dollars. I saw them divide the State money, they divided that by Bills without any respect to their sums and some in sheets, which was Divided same way. Maylon Doan & Jesse Vicars first acquainted me with the design of Robbing the Treasury some few Days before it was executed. I met with the party a Sunday morning in a piece of woods near John Tombleson's, who directed me where I should find them & I found the following persons.

Moses & Aaron Doan, John & Caleb Paul, Ned. Connard, two men the name of Woodwards, from Jersey, first names I did not know, & we was not at liberty to ask each others names. In the afternoon Maylon Doan, Robt, Steel, & Jeremiah Cooper came to us, there was several others there who's names I did not know.

Jesse Vicars was with us that Day—John Tombleson was frequently with us, and supplied us with Victuals, was with us the evening of the Robbery just before we set off, & was talking with John Paul something about Newtown, giving Directions, as I thought, how to proceed, he was not with us at the Robbery, but he drew his full share of hard money at the School House at Writestown—after the Division we went which way we pleased. I never was concerned with any of the Company in any thing of the like nature, (or any body else) in my life before.

Farther saith, that about two Weeks ago he was in Company with George Sincleare & Aaron Doan at John Tombleson's, and they told him that they about a Week before had rob'd a post, & took his mail, some place near the falls, & that they had sent the mail to New York with Caleb Paul—that there was at that time at John Tombleson's a man the name of Giddion Varnam, from Chester County, who told me that some time before he had taken a mail in Chester County under pretence of giving the man a letter for his excelleney, Gen. Washington, Seized him & draged him from his Horse—he was a large, stout, well made man, & remarkably Active. I found these People at Tombleson's & left them there.

I heard Aaron Doan & Robt. Steel say that they & Jesse Vicars committed the Robbery on Joab Barton, Collector of Buckingham.

I know nothing of Keith's Robbery, nor ever saw the Horse.

Moses Doan told me that himself & George Sinclaire Robbed Groever of the Pedlar's money & Goods.

John Tomblesen told me that Aaron Doan & John Paul ware the men that ware at the Widow Keith's, endeavoring to prevent her from appearing against Jesse Vicars.

I do acknowledge this Confession to have been made by me & to contain nothing but the truth, to the best of my knowledge.

SOLOMON VICKERS.

Taken before us,

JAMES TATE,
DAVID FORST.

Indorsed,

1782, August 7th, Confession of Solomon Vickers, now confined in the Gaol of Newtown.

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No. 4—Confession of Solomon Vickers, continued.

ROBBERY OF COLLECTORS.—JAMES SNOTGRASS.—Moses Doan, Abram Doan & Levi Doan, Soloman Vicars, left our homes in the evening that James Snotgrass, the Collector, was Rob'd, all of us arm'd. Met in the grate Road, near Joseph Doan's, & proceeded from their Directly to James Snotgrass, for the purpose of taking the publick money, knowing him to be a Collector. After some inquiry went into the House; M. Doan demanded the publick money of his Daughter. She after some threats shew it to us. We got 8 or 10 Hard Dollr, & 80 State Dollr. We left the house, and every one went to his own home.

Abram Doan told me that John Ferril must have a Dollar for telling us the proper time for committing the Robbery & Directing us the way to Snotgrass's House, and Abram Doan Deducted so much out of our share.

SMITH.—About the 28th of March, Abram Doan, Joseph Doan, & Levi Doan, & myself, agreed to go to the Swamp to rob one Smith, a Collector. We met in a piece of Woods by the road, & then proceeded to Richardson's Tavern, in Quaker Town; we halted their, & Drank about two Dollars worth. Went from their to Smith's House, & Richardson's Brother went with us & Shew us the way. Was acquainted with our design by Joseph Doan. Near 12 o'Clock, went to the fore Door, all but me; broke at the fore Door of the Kitchen. We got from him one French Crown, it being all the money we could find. After he had shown us his Receipt from the Treasurer, we left the House. We was informed

by Richards, the Tavern Keeper in Quaker Town, that was a proper time to attact Smith, the Collector, as he had a Quantity of money then by him. I understood that Richards was to have had a share for his information, if we got anything considerable, but as we got but one French Crown, he got none. We dispersed when we got near home, & every one went to his own house.

WEAVER IN TINNICUM.—Joseph Doan & myself went together from Doan's House to one Weaver's, a Collector of Taxes in Tinicum, and forced open the Door, & went into the House. I asked him for the money he had collected, & he got some out of a Chest & laid it on a Bed, which I took—about 10 or 13 Dollars hard, & about £6 State, & the same night returned home the same Night.

HOLE, A COLLECTOR IN TINNICUM.—Moses Doan, Aaron Doan, Abram Doan, & myself met by Israel Doan; proceeded 4 or 5 miles to a Mr. Hole, a Collector in Tinnicum; open'd the Door, went in—the family was not gone to Bed—and demanded his money. After searching the House found one Dollar, which we took, & returned home about 12 O'Clock at Night.

George Sincleare & Caleb Paul took Col. Hart's Horses, I was told so at John Tombleson's by some of the party.

Jesse Vicars says that Moses Doan told him at John Tombleson's Aaron Doan & George Sincleare, & Moses Doan took Mr. Shaw's Horse and Mr. Thomas's Horse, but don't know what they did with them.

HOLE'S 2D ROBBERY.—Abram Doan and Solomon Vicars committed this robbery.—We set off from Israel Doan's on Horse back in the evening. Was not gone to Bed—open'd the Door & went in. Doan demanded his money; said something about swearing against Cad. Morris. Ordered him to Collect no more; got about 8 Shillings from him. Took his Duplicates and a Pinchback Watch. Returned home that Night.

SACKET'S HORSE.—I was at Joseph Doan's house, and asked for Moses Doan, & was told he was in the Woods. I went to him, & found him with a Black Roan Horse hitched near him; asked him where he got that Horse; he laugh'd, & made no answer. At length found him to be Mr. Sacket's Horse. By M. Doan's Confession he told me how he got him—that he caught him in a field.

I went to John Blaker's House; was informed he was in the field; I went to him there; I enquired of him if he thought my Brother would be hang'd, or if he thought there would be a possibility of Rescuing him.

SOLOMON VICKERS.

We the Subscribers do Certify that the above examination was taken & subscribed before us.

JOSEPH HART.
TIMOTHY TAYLOR.

No. 5—A FARTHER EXAMINATION OF JESSE VICKERS TAKEN BEFORE US THE SUBSCRIBERS.

Moses Doan told this examinant that he was not afraid to trust Jo. Mires, the Hessian Doctr, with any secret, & that he the Doctor was to provide him with a Case of pistols—that the said Doan was frequently at the said Doctr House; that he went there in the dead hours of the Night. Mr. Doan was a refugee, & dare not appear at any other time. & farther says that the said Doan told this examint that the Hessian Doctor informed him that a Mr. John Thompson, his Neighbour had received a large sum of money for the purpose of purchasing provisions for the French Army; & that the said Doctor was to inform him, the said Doan, a proper time to Rob Mr. Thompson.

And farther saith, that he has frequently saw the Doctor at John Tombleson's, with whom he appeared to be very intimate—and had known him to come to Tombleson's house in the Night with Tombleson, & stay there all Night, his own wife being in the Naborhood & nobody sick at Tombleson's.

This examint farther says sometime ago he was at the House of Eleezer Doan, who told this examint that Moses Doan & George Sinclear had been at his House some time before, and went from his House to rob a Certain of money & goods, late property of a Pedlar, who died at his House, first making their intentions known to said Eliezar Doan, who told this examt that the Dutchman had fooled Moses Doan & George Sincleare—for the money was in the House, & he would not give it to them. Eliezer Doan begd this examt never to speak of this transaction.

JESSE VICKERS.

JOSEPH HART, TIMOTHY TAYLOR.

Indorsed.—1782, Aug. 9. Further Confession of Solomon & Jesse Vickers.

No. 6—GOV. LIVINGSTON, OF N. J., TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Sir, Trenton, 10th August, 1782,

I was yesterday honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 6th instant.—With respect to Paul, he is already safely lodged in goal in Philadelphia; and as to Woodward, the judicial department of this State has taken every necessary step to bring him to justice.

I heartily congratulate your Excellency on the detection of this knot of Villains, which may probably lead to the discovery of more of the fraternity concerned in various robberies & burglaries in both States.

I have the honour to be with great esteem,

your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servant,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.*

Directed,—(On public service.)

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 344.

Commissioners for Defence of River Delaware, to Pres. Moore, 1782.

To the Honble. The Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Commissioners appointed to procure and equip an Armament for guarding & defending the Navigation of the Bay and River Delaware,* beg Leave to inform the Honble. The Council, That Capt Justus Starr, who lately Commanded the Ship Hyder Alley, has declined the State Service, and that the said Ship is now fitted and ready to go on another Cruize. We therefore beg leave to recommend Capt John Kemp as a proper person to take the Command of the Hyder Alley, as we know him to be a man of Merit, and a very Suitable person for the Service.

We are The Honble. the Council's

Most Obedt Hble Servts,

JNo PATTON,
FRANs GURNEY,
WILLm ALLIBONE. } Comrs

Philads, 13th, 1782.

Sec'y of War Department to Pres. Moore, 1782.

War Office, August 13, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to transmit your Excellency some late resolutions of Congress respecting a reform in the army, to take place in January next.

I have the honor to be, with profound respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

B. LINCOLN.

His Excellency President Moore.

Gov. Livingston, of N. J., to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Trenton, 17 August, 1782.

Sir,

I this day saw a passport from your Excellency to Mr. John Franklin, to go to New York, directed to "the officer commanding the Troops next to the Enemy." But the Troops, Sir, nearest to the Enemy's lines, are the Troops of this State stationed at Elizabeth-Town, and all the officers of this State have my positive orders not to permit any person to go into, or come out of, the Enemy's lines,

* See Col. Rec., Vol, XIII., pp. 353, 354, 361.

from or in any part of New Jersey, while General Washington shall think proper to limit all flags to the Post at Dobb's Ferry in the State of New-York; and the officers belonging to the United States posted in this, have similar orders from the Commander in Chief.—I take the Liberty to mention this to your Excellency, in order that the officers of our Militia may not have the least temptation, nor be able to plead any excuse for breaking my orders in the premises, which I am determined never to revoke while General Washington, for the salutary reasons which induced him to confine the place of communication between us and New York, to Dobb's Ferry, shall think proper to continue it at that place; and as both your Excellency & myself are heartily disposed to co-operate with the Commander in Chief, in carrying into effect the above wise regulation, which is calculated to prevent a great deal of improper intercourse with the Enemy, I persuade myself that your Excellency will not be offended at the freedom I take in conveying this information, which is barely intended the more effectually to promote that glorious cause which, I dare say, your Excellency is not less studious to advance, than he is, who, with the greatest esteem & attachment, has the honour to be

Your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servant,

WILL. LIVINGSTON.*

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esqr, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Bernard Dougherty to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Sir,

I beg leave to lay before your Excellency and the Honorable Council, the present Situation of the County of Bedford: On the eighth of this Inst. were found killed and scalped about eighteen Miles on this side of the Town of Bedford, and within half a Mile of the great Road one Peck, his wife and two Children, his House burnt, and another who lived there is missing and thought to be taken away; the enemy penetrating so far into the very Heart of the Country has struck a general Panick, and the People are mostly fled. On my Coming down I had occasion to pass thro' the settlements of Brush Creek, Tonolowas, Licking Creek and the Big Cove, and most of the People were either gathered at Different places, gone or going away into Maryland, Virginia or Conegocheague, however on my crossing Tuscarora Mountain leading from the Coves to Conegocheague, I met several Families returning into the Coves.

I must likewise inform your Excellency that there are several Stations occupied at present in the County of Bedford, by the Bedford Pennsylvania Company of Rangers, and the Bedford County Militia, to wit Frankston, Heads of Dunnings Creek, Fort

* See answer, August 21.

Piper, the Town and Invirons of Bedford, and along the River Juniatta and some other inconsiderable small parties at other Stations, in all about one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty, that there is not above one week's provisions for their subsistance, and, that it was not possible for me to have got more having not a penny to purchase with, and if there is not a speedy supply to those stations they will of Course be evacuated, and as sure as Frankston, Fort Piper, Dunning's Creek posts or any one of them are evacuated, I am of Opinion Cumberland County will become the Frontier, because these are the most Material stations in the County, and if it is heard once that any of them are deserted the whole of the Country to which they are a frontier will immediately fly.

The other Frontier Counties are equally distressed by every report that I can hear.

I had almost forgot informing your Excellency that the noted Girty has for some years past threatened the Town of Bedford with destruction, in like manner as he has that of Hannah's Town, he has effected his design on the later, and how soon he may effect a similar Destruction on the former I know not, but I am greatly afraid he has it in Contemplation; This Information I thought myself under an absolute necessity of giving to your Honorable Board.

I am Sir,
with very great respect
your Excellency's
most obedt. H'ble servt.,
BERNARD DOUGHERTY.

August 19th, 1782.

Directed,
His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council.

SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY TO PRES. MOORE, 1782

In Genl. Assembly,
Aug. 19th, 1782.

Sir,

The House have directed me to request your Excellency & the Hon'ble the supreme executive Council to furnish them with an Estimate of the Supplies that may be wanting until the first Day of November next ensuing as will appear by the inclosed Resolution. I have the Honour to be with perfect Respect

Your Excellency's most obedient
& very humble Servt.,
FREDK. A. MUHLENBERG, Speaker.

Directed, (On public Service.)
His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr., President of the State of Pensilvania.

Pres. Moore to Gov. Livingston, 1782.

Sir, Philadelphia, Augt 21, 1782.

The letter* which your Excellency did me the honor to address to me, (dated the 17th instant,) respecting the terms in which passes have been granted to persons going within the Enemy's lines, lays the Council under obligations, as the information it contains will enable them, in future, to adopt expressions more definitive than it would have been, perhaps, proper to have done heretofore. By the words "the officer commanding the troops next the enemy," was intended to express such place as should from time to time have been assigned for receiving flags from the enemy. And your Excellency will observe that the Council have expressly reserved to the officer there commanding a "Discretion," which they considered as highly necessary to be exercised on special occasions.

The Council consider the attentions & remarks of your Excellency as a new proof of your regard to the general interest of the United States, and that the continuance of a free and friendly communication of such observations as may draw an early explanation of all occurrences liable to misconstruction, to be a means of preserving that perfect good understanding which has always existed between New Jersey & Pennsylvania.

And your Excellency's declaration that you believe me to be not less studious to advance our glorious cause than yourself, does me honor. And I beg you to believe that I shall, with great pleasure, cultivate, on all occasions, a continuance of that good understanding between those states.

Commissioners for Defence of River Delaware to Pres. Moore, 1782.

To the Honourable, the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Commissioners appointed to procure and equip an armament for guarding & defending the Navigation of the Bay and River Delaware, Respectfully beg Leave to Represent, That the funds assigned for the defence of the Trade is not adequate to the support of more than one of the Ships now in Service, nor does it appear to them necessary at present to employ more than one for that purpose. They are of opinion that the ship Hyder Ally is the most suitable for that Service; therefore, pray the permission of the Honb^le, the Council, for disposing of the Ship Gen. Washington.*

We are, with all due Respect, The Councils most H'ble Servts.,

JNO. PATTON,
FRAN. GURNEY, } Com's.
WILL^m ALLIBONE.

Philada., Aug. 21, 1782.

* See page 582, and Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 353, 354—granted.

Indorsed,

1782, August 21st. From Commissioners for defence of bay and river Delaware. Read in Council, Augt. 21, 1782, & ordered, That the same be laid before the General assembly.

T. MATLACK Secy.

Read in Assembly 1 time, Aug. 21, 1782, read 2 time Aug. 23rd and ordered to be refered to the S. E. Council to take order thereon.

Gov. Livingston to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Trenton, 21 August, 1782.

Sir,

The writer of the inclosed Letter, who is utterly unknown to me, seems to have very reasonable pretensions to the permission he solicits. If such debts are due to him as he alledges, it must be natural for him to endeavour to secure them; and it would seem dishonourable in us to deny him the means of doing it. But as his business lays in Philadelphia, I do not think myself authorized to give him a Passport to go into any other state, But if your Excellency shall think proper to grant him permission to come to Philadelphia, & to inclose such pass to me, I will transmit it to him, together with my own for passing thro' this state for that purpose.

As he mentions his having made application to Congress for a Passport to go to Philadelphia it would perhaps not be improper to enquire of your Delegates the cause of the refusal, and whether there be any political objection against granting his request.

I have the honor to be with great Esteem your

Excellency's most obedient &very humble servant,

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Governor Livingston.

Silas Taylor, Deposition respecting Wyoming, 1782.

Northampton County.

This 22d Day of August, 1782, Personally appeared before me Silas Taylor and being duly sworn on his solemn Oath deposeth and saith; he was at Wyoming on or about the twentieth Day of July last: Colo. Zebulon Butler arrrived at that Place the Day preceeding, after the Arrival of Butler, he sent to all the Proprietors of the Connecticut Claim then at that Place to meet the next Day to consult on Business of Importance and he was particular in Regard to have Notice sent to all the civil officers. The next Morning

after the Meeting the Deponent asked sundry of these Proprietors as they call themselves, what important Business Colonel Butler had to lay before them; they told the Deponent, Col. Butler had given Instructions to them to go down the River to Wapwhalpen, build a strong Block House and take Possession of that Country; The Trial between Connecticut and Pennsylvania will be kept off this seven years and the Possessions will support their Claims, many of those Connecticut Proprietors offered the Deponent and a Number of others one hundred acres of Land, if they would go with them to support and defend their Possession at Wapwalpen.

SILAS TAYLOR.

Sworn and acknowledged before me, the year and Date above written.—JOHN VAN CAMPEN.

JOHN SEELY'S DEPOSITION RESPECTING WYOMING, 1782.

On the 24th day of June, 1782, Before me Lewis Stecher one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Northampton appeared John Seely and made Oath on the Holy Evangelist that he has made it his Business to Enquire of the Settlers at Wyoming their Strength, Intentions, &c., which is as follows, Viz:—

About Three Hundred men fit to bear Arms, one fourth (or not Exceeding one Third,) from the State of Connecticut.

They Expect a large Body of Settlers from the state of Connecticut this fall and Next Spring to Extend their Settlement.

They Expect their Trial will be put off till another year,

If they should fail in their Charter Claims they are Determined to push for its being a New State.

JNO. SEELY.

Sworn before me.—LEWIS STACHER.

PRES. MOORE TO GOV. LIVINGSTON OF N. J., 1782.

In Council, Philada., Augt. 24, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter, enclosing one to you from Mr. Macnair, has been communicated to Council & to the delegates of the State in Congress from whom we learn, that Congress did not think Mr. Macnair entitled to the permission which he had requested—this being the case and there appearing no circumstance tending to prove, that he had supplied our officers in consequence of any public engagements or from regard to our cause, but on a principle of gain only, the Council decline giving him permission to come into this state, and do not think it necessary for them to suggest a mode of transacting the business which he has to do.

It may not be improper to hint, that the present temper of the whigs of Pennsylvania would not easily brook any extraordinary

indulgence to our enemies and your Exc'y may be assured that Carlton & Digby's letter has not produced consequences very favourable to the Loyalists, either within or without the enemy's line.

I am with great regard
your Excellency's
most obedient servant,
W. M., Presidt.

Directed,
His Exc'y, William Livingston, Esqr., Governor of the state of New Jersey.

Pennsylvania Commissioners on Connecticut Claim to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Philada., 24th August, 1782.

Sir,

We have the Honour to inform the Council that, after numerous Meetings, with the Agents of Connecticut, we have at length agreed upon Commissioners to constitute a Court for the Trial of the Controversy between the two States. The Gentlemen agreed upon are the hon'ble William Whipple, Welcome Arnold, David Brearley, William Churchill Houston, Cyrus Griffin, Joseph Jones & Thomas Nelson, Esqrs., and we have Reason to expect that a Commission will issue to them immediately. The twelfth Day of November next is fixed for the Meeting of the Court at Trenton; and each of them are to receive ten Dollars ℔ Day during their attendance, to be paid in the first Instance by the two States equally.

In this situation of the Business we think it our Duty to suggest the propriety of employing some fit person without Delay to procure authentick Copies of a Number of Records from the States of New York & Connecticut, the particulars of which we cannot at present enumerate; and for which a diligent Search may perhaps be necessary.—And also the necessity of an adequate & early Provision of Money, as well for the Proportion of the pay of the Judges to be defrayed by this state as for the other necessary Expences attending this important Discussion.

We also beg leave to request an early attention of the Hon. Board to this Business as we apprehend from its Nature & Intricacy & the Number of Persons necessarily attendant upon it the Expences will be very considerable.

We have the honor to be &c.

Directed,
His Exc'y, President Moore.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 361.—this from the rough draught.

Pres. Moore to R. Dove, 1782.

Philada. Augt. 27. 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 20th instant, directed to me as Secretary of the Council has been laid before the Council, and I am ordered to inform you that Pennsylvania has no authority to grant a pass to any person whatever, from New York to the state of Virginia. The peculiar circumstances of your case has no doubt, induced council to so far attend to it; yet I must request, that you will not on any occasion write to me thro' any other channel than head quarters, as I will not otherwise hold a correspondence with a person within the lines of the enemies of these United States, be the subject what it may. It would be still much more improper for me to intermeddle with any of your mercantile affairs. And I beg you to remember that whatever may have been my respect for you as an individual we are within Course of human events become enemies.

T. M. Secy.

Commissioners for Defence of the River Delaware, 1782.

To the Honble. the supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Commissioners appointed to procure and equip an armament for guarding & defending the navigation of the Bay & River Delaware Respectfully beg leave to Represent.

That agreeable to the permission obtained bearing date the 23d of Au.* we have disposed of the Ship Gen. Washington at Publick Sale for Seven thousand five hundred & fifty Pounds agreeable to the Inclosed Conditions, having reserved the Lead & Iron Ballast, some Provisions &c.,

Messrs John W. Stanly & Co. became the purchasers at the time of sale. Soon after we were informed that the superintendant of Finance requested to have the Ship for Public Service to which Mr. Stanly readily agreed provided we wou'd take the superintendant of Finance for the Payment, this we Consented to, having previously agreed with him that if he became the purchaser to give him nine months Credit for the purchase money. The terms of sale held out were more advantageous for the payment than those with Mr. Morris, but as she was wanted by him for Public Service we Concluded he should have her, we believe the Conditions held out at the Sale and those previously agreed to with Mr. Morris has

* See page 621.

been a means of procureing an advantageous Price for the Ship and hope our proceedings on the occasion will meet your approbation.

We are with due Respect,

The Councils most Hble. Servts.

JNO PATTON,
FRANS. GURNEY,
WILL^m ALLIBONE, } Com^rs

Conditions of Sale, 1782.

(Copy.)

The State Ship, General Washington, as she now lays at anchor in the River Delaware, agreeable to this Inventory.

The Purchase money to be paid in Six weeks, the Purchaser giving Security if Required.

The Commissioners Obligations will be Received in payment for such Sum or Sums as the Present Purchasers have really Sent them.

WILL^m ALLIBONE,
For the Commis^s.

Wednesday, Aug. 28th, 1782.

Pres. Moore to Genl. Washington, 1782.

In Council, Philadelphia, Aug. 27, 1782.

Sir,

The inroads which have recently been made by the Indians within this State, and the number of murders committed by them, far within our frontiers, having become seriously important and alarming, the house of Assembly, many of whose members are well acquainted with the nature of Indian wars, have taken the matter under their consideration, & think it necessary to carry several expeditions into the Indian country, as the only effectual means of drawing their warriors from our settlements. And as the defence of the frontiers of Pennsylvania, by covering a number of other states, becomes a common cause of the United States, we have agreed to send a deputation from the house and one from the Council to confer with your Excellency on this subject and adopt such measure for this purpose as shall by you and them be judged effectual & practicable. The Council are, unanimously, of opinion that such expeditions are really necessary, and therefore feel the strongest disposition to interest your Excellency in favour of that measure, as far as shall be found consistent with the general plan of operations for the campaign, and we beg leave to assure you that we shall give, with the greatest readiness, every aid in our power in forwarding the measure.

The Council wish that your Excellency would consider the Vice President as fully empowered, on the part of Council, to enter upon this business in the broadest ground, and finally to agree to the measures to be taken, as we confide in his ability, and the season will admit of no delay.

We are very happy to find that the Secretary of War appears to think favourably of the expedition proposed, and that he has written your Excellency his sentiments thereupon.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest
regard & esteem, your Excellency's most
obedient & very humble servant,
T. M., Pres^t.

His Exc'y, Gen. Washington.

La Fayette to Gen. Lincoln, 1782.

Paris, September 1, 1782.

Dear Sir,

The Chevalier de Lambert, a French Gentleman who has served some years in the Gendarmarie will have the honor to wait upon you with this Letter, and I beg leave most earnestly to recommend him to your notice. It is known in the Army that my opinion has ever been clear against the admittance of foreigners, and if you except a few, whom I need not name to you, more of the European Officers have brought over little merit and great pretensions—this you will not find to be the case with the Chevalier de Lambert. He is young, and desires to become an experienced Officer, and intends at once to devote himself to our Service, so that I beg you will consider him as one who has made himself an American, and one whose welfare I have very much at heart. I would not wish him to enter into a corps of foreigners, but in one of the National Regiments, the same way as two French Gentlemen have been employed in Colonel Steward's Pennsylvania Regiment, and for this purpose I warmly recommend him to your friendly patronage. I have wrote to His Excellency upon the subject, and I do assure you that your kindness to the Chevalier de Lambert will afford me a particular satisfaction.

I am happy my dear friend of having an opportunity to remind you of a Brother Soldier, who has the honor to be
with the Highest regard and
most tender attachment,
y^r aff^e H^ble servant,
LA FAYETTE †

Directed, The Honl. Major General Lincoln.

Indorsed. 1782, Sept. 1st, From Major Genl., the Marquis La Fayette, to Major General Lincoln, rec^d the Chevalier de Lambert.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 356.

† The foregoing is not (apparently) in the Marquis's hand writing, yet it is not designated as a "Copy"—though it probably is, of the original, sent to Gen. Lincoln.

George Wall, Jun., to Secretary Matlack, 1782.

Solebury, Bucks County, Sept. 2d, 1782.

Sir,

Inclosed you have the the Draughts of three Estates, the Persons they belong to have been Proscribed long since. Joseph Doan hath been returned home again, but on hearing he was Discover'd to be Concerned in the Roberies committed in this County, has again absconded. I have saved Doan's Personal Effects, and should be Glad if the Council would Please to Direct me to sell them soon, as they are Dayly wasting. Also want to know if I may advertise their Real Estates for Sale. I should be Glad you will Please to Consult Council about the Matter and send me their Determination by the bearer hereof, Capt. Kinsey.

from your
obedient humble servant,
GEO. WALL, Junior.*

Directed,
To the Hon'ble Timothy Matlack, Secretary, Philadelphia.
Favoured by Capt. Kinsey.

Barnard Dougherty to Hon. Dr. Gardner, 1782.

Sir,

I Beg leave to lay the inclosed thro' your means before the Honorable Board of Council, as it gives (tho' imperfectly) some acc^t of the present Situation of the County of Bedford, you were kind enough to promise to me a Copy of such instructions as are necessary for me to observe relative to Issuing Provisions, I pray it may be remembered with respect to signing Vouchers, that the County Lieutenant lives upwards of fifty Miles from Bedford Town. I understand that the Loan for the relief of the Frontiers is in such forwardness as not to admitt of the least Doubt respecting it; if Council will please to take the County of Bedford into Consideration by enabling me to return to it immediately, I believe it wond have a salutary effect, nothing can be more distressing than the present situation of it, for the places said in the inclosed to be broken up, are nearly on the Maryland Line, you will greatly lessen my Anxiety by letting me know what I am to expect, and it will add to my obligations that I may be as soon as Conveniently possible informed.

I am Sir, with all due respect,
your most Obed^t H'ble Servt,
BARNARD DOUGHERTY.†

Sepr 2d, 1782.
Honorable Doctor Gardner, in Council.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 361.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 359.

Lt. Col. Edw. Cook to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Westmoreland County, 2d September, 1782.

Sir

It may be necessary to Inform your Excellency that upon an Application made to me by some of the Distress[d] Inhabitants of Hanna's Town and the Vicinity thereof, I have allowed them to Enroll themselves under the Command of Captain Brice and Draw Rations for two months upon their making Every Exertion in their Power to keep up the Line of the Frontiers.

The Ranging Company, Consisting of about 22 Privates and 2 officers, are stationed at Ligoneer for the Defence of that Quarter.

The Intended Excursion against the Indians, under the Command of Brigadier General Irvine, is purposed to set out the 15th Inst. No mills to Grind, on acc[t] of which there is some Difficulties still in the way.

The Savages have been tolerable these few weeks Past, what they are about we Cannot Determine I am Informed that you have it Reported that the Massacre of the Moravian Indians Obtain the Approbation of Every man on this side the Mountains, which I assure your Excelency is false, that the Better Part of the Community are of Opinion the Perpetrators of that wicked Deed ought to be Brought to Condein Punishment, that without something is Done by Government in the Matter, it will Disgrace the Annals of the United States, and be an Everlasting Plea and Cover for British Cruelty.

I have the Honour to be your Excelency's

most Obedient,

most Humble Servant,

EDW. COOK,

L[t] W[d] C[ty].

Directed,

His Excellency, William Moore, Esq[e], President of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Pres. Moore to Governors of New York and Connecticut, 1782.

Sir,

The Council of the state of Pennsylvania have appointed Mr. Osbourne solicitor in the cause now depending before Congress, respecting the lands claimed by the state of Connecticut, within the bounds of Pennsylvania. And it appearing to be probable that there may be among the records of the state over which you preside

some* which may elucidate that subject, and have therefore directed him to apply to your Excellency for permission to search and take copies of such records as may have this tendency.

Your Excellency's countenance and assistance in this business, extended to Mr. Osbourne, will confer an obligation on the state of Pennsylvania which will be gratefully acknowledged and repaid whenever it shall be in her power.

I have the honor to be, with greatest esteem
and respect, your Exc'y's most obedient servant.

Indorsed,

1782, September 4th. To George Clinton and Jonathan Trumbull, Governors of the States of New York and Connecticut.

Pres. Moore to Gen. Irvine, 1782.

In Council, Philada., Sepr 4th, 1782.

Sir,

The situation of affairs on the Frontiers have engaged the serious attention of both the Council and General Assembly, the result of which has been a conference with some of the delegates of Congress, in which it has been agreed to propose to His Excellency, Gen. Washington, to carry three expeditions into the Indian country. One from Fort Pitt, one from Northumberland, into the Jenisee country, and one toward Oswego, from such place as the General shall think most practicable.

In order to have this business forwarded in the most decisive manner, General Potter, on the part of Council, and Colonel Magaw, on the part of the General Assembly, are gone to head quarters to determine on this proposal, and are expected to return within a few days.

What will be the General's sentiments and determination on this subject it is not possible, at present, to determine; yet it seems to be proper to give you this hint, of which you will make such use as you may find occasion, and you may depend on the earliest information upon the return of the commissioners from head quarters.

I am, with esteem & regard,
Your most obedient servant.‡

General Irvine, (at Fort Pitt.)

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 361.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 362.
‡ See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 356.

F. Hopkinson to Pres. Moore, 1782.

To His Excellency, the President, and Honourable, the Executive Council.

Gentlemen,

I enclose for your Inspection a certified account of all fees received by me as Judge of the Court of Admiralty, since the 13 of June last.

I pray your Honours would be so good as to grant me a Warrant on the Treasury for £75, on Account of Salary, or such other sum as you may judge expedient. The necessity of such a supply hath become the more pressing, as I have been disappointed in my chief Dependence; in receiving Bills on France for Interest due on Monies heretofore lent to the public service.

I have the Honour to be, with all Respect, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient & very humble servant,
FRAS. HOPKINSON.

Philada., Sept. 14, 1782.

Directed,
To His Excellency, The President in Council.

Fees of the Court of Admiralty, 1782.

Fees received by the Honourable Francis Hopkinson, Esquire, Judge of the Court of Admiralty of the State of Pennsylvania, from the thirteenth day of June, in the year one thousand seven hundred and Eighty-two, to the Thirteenth Day of September, in the same Year.

July 23.	Warr. Survey of Ship St. Helena, Capt. Stillwell,	£1 10
29.	Fees in Cause Barney qui tam &c., vs. Shallop Boreas,	5 12
	Do. in Do., Idem, vs. Sloop Sally,	5 12
	Do. in Do., Idem, vs. Schooner Happy Return,	5 12
31.	Do. Writ to settle average Loss on Schooner Nancy & Cargo,	1 10
Aug. 6.	Do. Do. Survey Ship Nonsuch, Cap. Wells,	1 10
Sep. 10.	Do. Stephen Tinker qui tam &c., vs. Schooner Leah Addressis,	12 10
13.	Warr. Survey Ship Herr Adams, Capt. Smedley,	1 10
		£35 6

I do hereby certify that the above is a true Account of all fees received by the Honourable, the Judge of the Court of Admiralty, aforesaid, between the 13th Day of June last past and this Day.

Philadelphia, September 14th, 1782.

JAMES READ, Register of s^d Court.

Lt. Wm. Scott to Pres. Moore, 1782.

York, September 10th, 1782.

Sir,

In compliance with your Excellency's Orders of the 14th of last Month, I called one Class of Seven Battalions of the Militia of this County, and on the fifth instant the Company marched from this Place for Fort Pitt. Consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, three Serjents and Seventy eight Rank and File; all Arm' and having about Six rounds of Ammunition, which was all we had. We were under the necessity of sending a Waggon to carry Provisions, as there was no Post beyond Carlisle where they could be supplied.

Wou'd wish to be informed if they are to be relieved at the expiration of their two Months by another draft of the Militia of this County.

I am, Sir, your Excellency's
most Obedient Humble Servant,

WM. SCOTT.

Indorsed,

Read in Council, 27 Sep., 1782. Ans' by the resolve of that date.

T. M.

Directed;

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President in Council, Philadelphia.

Major Andrew Porter to Council, 1782.

Philadelphia Sept. 12th, 1782.

Gentlemen,

The inclosed Return will show Council, the Promotions which the Officers of the Pennsa. Regiment of artillery are Justly intitled to—and the declaration of Congress (to Col. Carrington) by their resolve of the 26th of April last leaves it no longer a matter of doubt who on the principles of right & wrong, is intitled to the rank of Lieut. Col. Commandant of the Regiment.

The Officers that were formerly in Col. Lamb's Regt. & by the arrangment of January 1st, 1781 Transposed to this, are most cruelly injured by withholding their promotions; as Junior Officers to them in Lambs have since been promoted to vacancies in that Regt. and now take command of them, whereas were the promotions filled up n ours no such complaint would exist.

Honor is the only personal reward left for an officer in our Service, and to withold from him his promotion is wounding his feelings by sapping his Military honor & ambition. We early drew our swords in defence of our Country, nor could The Gloomy prospects, which the timid shrank at shake our early determination of Fighting the battles until the Independance of our Country was settled on the firmest Basis, and we anticipate the day, when we can once more return to the Character of Citizens, enriched with military honors, & undisturbed by poverty which has long been closely connected with the military characters in our service.

It is clear to a Demonstration, That it was not sinister views, but an attachment to our Country and Military ambition detained us in the service, when often reduced to the most pinching Circumstances, and attention to our Families pressing us to provide for their support, yet we have been far from clamorous tho' but ill paid for our service.

From these Considerations, The Justness of the request, and the attention Council has always paid to the Interests of their Officers, I have not the least doubt but you will order our promotions take place, that those complaints so injurious to the feelings of officers may be removed.

I am with every Sentiment of Respect,

& Esteem Gentlemen your obedient Servt.

ANDREW PORTER.*

Directed,

His Excellency the President & the supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ROBT. R. LIVINGSTON, SECRETARY, TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Office for Foreign Affairs.

Circular.

Philadelphia 15th September, 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you by the direction of Congress that I have lately received official advices from Mr. Adams of the Resolutions of their High Mightiness the States General to receive and acknowledge the said Mr. Adams in quality of Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America and to request your Excellency to cause this interesting Event to be made public. I have the honor to enclose copies of the Resolutions of their High Mightinesses on this subject, and to inform you that the States General did on the 23d, of April appoint a grand Committee to confer with Mr. Adams to whom having been introduced in the usual forms by two

* See Vol. XIII., p. 369.

noblemen, he laid before them the plan of a Treaty of amity and Commerce, which was immediately printed and sent to the different Members of the Sovereignty. I cannot conclude without congratulating your Excellency upon an event, which widens the basis of our Independence and leads to an immediate connection with a powerful nation, whose alliance, a variety of Circumstances in their origin and government render extremely desirable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, with great Respect and Esteem,

Your Excellency's most obed. humble servant,

ROB. R. LIVINGSTON.

His Excellency William Moore.

JUDGES OF SUPREME COURT TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

September 18, 1782.

Sir,

Having examined all the parties arrested in Bucks county on suspicion of being principals or accessaries in robbing the Treasurer of that county, and in divers other robberies & felonies; we find the prosecutions cannot be carried on with effect unless two of the Participes criminis are pardoned, and upon mature consideration of all circumstances are of opinion, that Jesse Vickers and Solomon Vickers have a preference to the mercy of Government, both on account of their youth and their early and ample discoveries.

The Attorney General informs us, that there are four persons charged with Piracy, none of whom can be convicted unless one of them is made use of as a witness and that a certain John Shebell, a young Swede appears to him to be the most likely person to give full evidence, & to merit credit and the mercy of Government.

For these reasons, and as the Courts of Admiralty Sessions begin to day, and the courts of Oyer & Terminer and General Goal Delivery on Monday the 30th, instant for the County of Bucks, we beg your Excellency will be pleased to lay this business before Council and communicate to us the result of their determination.

We have the honor to be,

with the utmost regard Sir, Your Excellency's

most obedient humble servant,

THO. McKEAN,

GEO. BRYAN.*

Directed,

His Excellency William Moore, Esquire, President & Commander in Chief of Pennsylvania.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 372, and 608-617 of this.

Pres. Moore to Gen. Wm. Irvine, 1782.

In Council.

Philada., September 18, 1782.

Sir,

An expedition from Fort Pitt being agreed on and the orders relative thereto of course transmitted to you by the Secretary of war, we now transmit to you an estimate of the expence for your information of the idea entertained here respecting it and some kind of rule on that head. We are sensible of the difficulties attending this business, and the absolute necessity of the utmost expedition being used, and therefore authorize you to appoint such persons to procure the provisions, pack horses and stores as you may judge most capable of the extraordinary exertion which in this case is required. This the Council think the importance of the object and their confidence in your prudence and integrity will justify, and in order to give you the fairest opportunity the nature of the Case will admit of, we transmit to you by Mr. Carnahan the sum of fifteen hundred pounds. The State engages to pay the expence in the first instance, and for this purpose will forward the money to you from time to time as they perceive it will be necessary, but the Council hope it will not exceed the estimate now sent to you.

Whoever shall be appointed by you for these purposes, will be required to procure clear vouchers of their expenditures, and to make clear distinctions between the rations issued to the Continental troops & those issued to the militia and so of all other expenditures.

I wish you success in the arduous task before you and am,

Pres. Moore to ——— ? 1782.

Sir,

The Bearer Mr. Carnahan has under his care £1500 to be delivered to General Irvine Commandant at Fort Pitt, for the purpose of Carrying on an Expedition into the Indian Country, as there is some Danger in Carrying such a sum of Money a considerable Distance thro' an uninhabited part of the Country, the Council will be oblig'd to you to spare two Officers to Accompany him, of the Troops that are gone to Fort Pitt, if that can't be done, you'll please to receive One Thousand of the Money from him, & send it by the Officers who command the Troops that are sent from Lancaster upon this expedition.*

Indorsed,

September 19, 1782.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 372.

Robert Morris to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Office of Finance, 19th September, 1782.

Sir

The Minister at War having applied to me to make Provision for sundry Continental Troops which are (in Pursuance of an act of Congress of the thirteenth Instant) directed to be employed by the State of Pensylvania in certain Expeditions about to be undertaken by that State. And having informed me farther that a Part of those Troops will march from Fort Pitt, and another Part of them from Carlisle I have to propose to your Excellency that these Troops be subsisted at the Expence of your State during the service in which you mean to employ them. That the usual Receipts be taken from the proper Officers for the Rations which may be issued and that I pay on Behalf of the United States the Contract Prices of such Rations at the Posts of Fort Pitt and Carlisle for the Troops which march from those Places respectively. This appears to me to be the simplest Mode of Settlement, but if not approved of I will take arrangements for feeding the continental Troops while on the Expedition, in which Case I must request to be favored with the Informations necessary for my Direction.

With perfect Respect & Esteem
I have the Honor to be
Sir, your Excellency's
most obd^t & h'ble Servt,
ROB'T MORRIS.*

Directed,
To His Excellency The President of Pennsylvania.
Indorsed,
Read in Council, Septr 20, 1782.

Pres. Moore to Robt. Morris, 1782.

In Council,
Philad^a, 20th September, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of 19th instant having been read in Council and the propositions it contains considered—I am now to inform you, that the arrangements taken by the Council are perfectly consistent with your ideas from the time of the troops marching from Fort Pitt and Northumberland respectively.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 374.

It nevertheless appears to be reasonable that in case of a loss of provisions being destroyed by the enemy, that the United States should bear a proportion of such loss according to the number of the troops of the United States compared with the number of Militia engaged in the expedition.*

Christopher Hays to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, September y° 20th, 1782.

Dear Sir,

After my best Compliments to you I Enform your Excellency that the Commission for the Courts of Oyer & Terminer is Come to hand and also Mr. McClean's Instructions for the Runing of the Pennsylvania line which is now sevarly Threatned by those who Oppos'd it before & our Lives Much Threatned by those who Formerly held to the Government of Virginia & now to a New State, if any such who ware Encouraged by men your Excellency would scarcely suppose.

As our Assessors was Taking their Returns According to Law the Opposers Assembled under arms Drove them off From their Deauty Fired Guns at them and say they will not Pay any Taxes nor be Obedient to our Laws being they never took the oath of Fidelity to this state But means to support a New state.

I should Think it would not be amiss if the Honourable Council would send a Number of Proclamations against all those that is or will be in Opposition of all Laws & Lawfull Proceeding in this state as there is a Number such in our Territories & will of Consequence encourage a Number More Unless something Done to Oppose them the Citizens of these Two Counties Think it Extremely Heard to pay Taxes & be nearle all summer under arms & Receive Neither Pay nor Provisions as Each Man has to Find mostly their own Provision while on Deauty.

There is a Campain Proposed to Go against the Sanduskey Towns to start by the 6th Day of Next Month under the Command of General Erwine wherein these Counties Quotoed themselves To find all Voluntiers and a Number of Regular Troops in Provision During said Campain which is Nearly if not altogether Ready & Lies Prepared for that Purpose.

I Have been Informed By Bill Printed for Public Consideration that the County of Westmoreland will or is to be Divided into Two Counties Unless Opposed by the Public. If the New County should take Place Westmoreland County will be Totally Ruined and in a short Time will Become an Easy Pray to the Enemy as the Major Part of what will be Left to this County are at Present in Forts and Blockhouses scarcely able of supporting themselves and of Conse-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 374,

quence will Readyly be Ruined if we rely on the Protection of the Lieutenants of the other County.

I Therefore would Beg the Favour of you to use your Influence & Interest with the Principle Members of the Assembly of this state to have said Bill made Void & of None Effect and to Move the seat of justice of this County Into some Interior Part of the County & in so Doing you will Much oblige the Distressed of Westmoreland & your

Most Obedient Humble servant,

CHRISTOr. HAYS.

My Complyments to the Honourable Council.

N. B. Last Thursday week Between Five & six Hundred Indians Made their appearance at Wheelen Fort & Killed several. I should be glad If you would send me some of the Latest Newspaper & you would Oblige your Humble servt.,

C. H.

Directed,

William Moore, Esqr., President of the State of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

☞ Express.

Philip Marsteller to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Lebanon, the 21st Septr., 1782.

Sr,

Inclosed is a list of the 7 months men handed me a few days ago by Col. Adam Hubley, Consisting of 52 men only—but I am satisfied there is upwards of 100 of said men yet in this County, I myself could name upwards of 20 living in the upper end of this County not inserted in the List, I could hartily wish said men Gould be paid soon, they give me much trouble.

Yesterday 12 o'Clock I rec'd the Order of Council for the Hiring 55 pack Horses for the intended expedition against the Indians with £50 Cash—the time is very Short but nevertheless hope to be able to procure them, nothing however shall be omitted on my side and the best Oeconomy used in order to save every possable expence. There is nothing said respecting Forrage, but I take it for granted that whenever the Horses are gathered to be sent away, the Public Provides Forrage while it can be procured. If Horses die, run a Stray or otherwise be Lost on this expedition (which undoubtedly will happen,) are the Owners to be paid for them? this is a question I ought to be enabled to answer—and likewise is the Hire for men and Horses to be paid in Hard money or in State? this question I shall be oftimes asked, and ought to be enabled to answer it poss-

tively—Should any thing occur in which you think me of use please to Command.

I have the Honor to Subscribe myself your Excellencies
most Obedient Huml. Servt.,
P. MARSTELLER.

Should be glad an answer to this may be handed to Col. Miles as soon as possable.

P. M.

Directed,
Public Service.
His Excellency, William Moore, Esqr., President of Pennsylva.

Pres. Moore to Philip Marsteller, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 21st instant has been received & read in Council—The list of seven months men has been handed to the Comptroller General and they will be paid whenever the General Assembly shall make provision for them.

Forage is to be provided for the horses hired for the Indian expedition as soon as they are collected together and they are to be supplied until they get to the place of rendezvous in Northumberland county where they will be put under the command of Major Genl. Potter. Their pay is to be in hard money and such as are not returned to their owners are to be paidfor agreeably to the appraisement.

The Council confide in your diligence and therefore expect that you will succeed.

I am &c.*

Directed,
Philip Marsteller, Esqr.
Indorsed,—Sept. 25, 1782.

H. Osborne to Gov. Trumbull, 1782.

Sir,

I take the liberty of transmiting herewith a letter from the President and Council of the State of Pennsylvania, to your Excl^y. I have applied to the Secretary for duplicates of some papers in his Possession and which is now making out, he informs me there are others in your Excely's possession, and which I should be glad to have for the purpose of using on the Trial, to wit, The Appointm^t of John Winthrop, Esqr., to be Govr by Lord Say and Seal, Dated in the year 1635, with a number of Instructions, The Petition of

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 371.

the General Court at Hartford to the King Chas 2nd for a Charter, also the Books or proceedings of the Comm^rs of the United Colonies in the year 1638, 1646, & 1658, respecting the lands belonging to the Peqots.

As those papers are of some consequence in this dispute, I request your Excl'y will be so obliging as to transmit them here for the purpose of taking & using on the Trial. There are numbers of other papers among the Records of New Haven, in the Hands of the County or Town Clerke, Authentic Duplicates of which I wish to obtain. In order to this I must request your Excl'y^s Order for that purpose to the keeper of the Records at N. Haven. I should have done myself the Honour of waiting on your Excl'y in person, would time and the business in which I am Concerned have permitted, I therefore hope your Excl'y will pardon this mode of Address, as it's the only one at present in my power.

I have the Honour to be, &c.,

H. O.

Hartford, 26th Sept^r, 1782.

The queries that were sent the Board of Trade in the year 1680 and at other times, with the Answers of the Government of Connecticut.*

Pres. Moore to Wm. Maclay and Wm. Montgomery, 1782.

In Council,

Philadelphia, Septr 26th, 1782.

Sir,

His Excellency General Washington having written to Council his opinion that it will be best to decline the expedition into the Indian country, as he has received information which he relies on that the British have called in all their parties and have directed that no other parties should be sent out by the savages, the Council have determined to decline the expedition accordingly.

You will therefore make no further contracts for provisions of any kind. As to what has already been done, you are to do the best you can to prevent any considerable expence to the State, which we hope may be effected as the expedition was intended for the security of the parties themselves and probably no injury has been done to any—The real expences however ought to be paid. But as we cannot know the situation of your contracts, no precise directions can be given to you, and we must rely on your prudence and oeconomy to save the public money as much as possible. You will please to make up your accounts of this business as soon as may be, and transmit them to us.†

* From a rough draught.

† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 371.

Pres. Moore to Gen. James Potter, 1782.

In Council,
Philad^a, Sepr 27th, 1782.

Sir,

A letter from His Excellency General Washington, of the 23d instant, gives the agreeable information "that from a certain period not long after the arrival of Genl. Carlton, no parties of Indians were sent out, that messengers were dispatched to recall those who had gone forth before that time, and that particular assurances had been received by Gen. Carlton of disapprobation of all that happened to our party on the side of Sandusky, except so far as was necessary for self defence"—this information was received after you left Head quarters.

His Excellency adds, "by repeated accounts from our North-western Frontiers, which were all quiet & still from any inroads of the savages or enemy of any kind, I am induced to view the above information *from Gen. Carlton*, as founded on the fullest matter of fact." And he gives it as his opinion, "that it will be best under these circumstances to decline the expedition, least instead of giving security to the inhabitants on the frontiers, we should again rouse their savage neighbours to acts of self defence & revenge, in which it is more than probable that the English not considering themselves as parties will not attempt to restrain their rage & fury."

This being the case, it appears most prudent to comply with the sentiments of the General and immediately put a stop to all further expence, which we request you will do as soon as possible.

We have written to Mr. Marsteller, Mr. Brown, Mr. Maclay, Mr. Montgomery, & the Lieuts. of the several Counties conformably to His Excellency's sentiments—And the Minister at War has also written to Genl. Irwin & Genl. Hague to stop the Western expedition.

You will see the Propriety & necessity of your returning to take your seat in Council as soon as possible after giving orders for stopping all further expence—and altho we have not any news so far authenticated as to warrant our going into particulars yet it is proper to intimate to you that the face of affairs in general are not favourable to Britain, of which authentick intelligence will probably be received before your return.

Pres. Moore to P. Marsteller and Wm. Brown, 1782.

In Council,
Philad^a, September 27th, 1782.

Sir,

His Exc^y Genl Washington having rec^d infrom^n that the British have recalled the savages from our frontiers, it is determined to decline the expedition into their Country. You are therefore imme-

mediately to stop all further Contracts for Horses and return such as you have already rec^d to their owners and transmit the acc^ts of such expences as have occurred. It is expected that no inconveniency will have been sustained by the owners of the Horses, and therefore their demands will be moderate, allowed however all real expences which they have incurred.

I am, &c.

W. M., President.

Directed,

Philip Marsteller, Wm. Brown, Esqrs.

Pres. Moore to Gen. Washington, 1782.

In Council,

Philad^a, Septr 27, 1782.

Sir,

Your Excellency's letter of the 23d inst * having been read in Council, and the sentiments you express perfectly coinciding with those of the Council, orders have this day been issued to stop the expeditions against the savages accordingly, and we hope the people on our frontiers will be made easy by the intelligence which you have obliged us with: And the more so as there does not appear to be any party now distressing them.

I am Sir, with the greatest respect,

y^r Exc'ys most hum Servt,

WM. MOORE, President.

Directed,

His Exc'y, Genl. Washington.

Henry Osborne to Gov. Trumbull, 1782.

Sir,

I am honoured with your letter of the 26th inst., and beg your Exc'y to accept my sincere thanks for the same.

The Copy of Mr. Winthrop's appointment to be Governor, with His Instructions, in the year 1635, if true Copies, will answer the same purpose as the Originals, therefore if your Exc'y knows them to be such, and will please to transmit them to the Secretary, he will forward them to me, as I intend to set out for Philad^a in two Days.

I have the Honour to be, &c.,

H. O.

Hartford, 30th Sept^r, 1782.

Directed,

His Exc'y, Jno Trumbull, Esqr., Govr. of Connecticut.

* Not found.

Henry Osborne to Jon. Ingersoll and Dr. Smith, 1782.

Dear Sirs,

As there are many papers among the Old Records of New Haven which may be necessary on the part of Pennsylvania in the cause pending between that State and this, I intended to have returned by N. H., for the purpose of obtaining them, but as I have been necessarily detained here longer than I expected, and having business of a similar nature with the Gov. of N. Y., I find it would be very inconvenient to go to N. H. I therefore take the liberty of Requesting your Assistance in this Business, for which purpose I inclose the Agreement of the Agents of Connecticut and the Gov.'s Orders for Mr. Bishop, which, with his Letter, will sufficiently authorise you to obtain those papers. And for your particular direction, I Inclose a pamphlet & in the second part of the Appendix you will observe the papers Marked with a pen, No. 1 to No. 13, inclusive Full & complete, Certified Copies of which I wish to obtain, together with such others as you may find and conceive to be necessary, the tendency of which you will readily perceive on perusing the pamphlet. The Copies when obtained, (which I wish as soon as possible) you will please to transmit to me at Philadelphia, either by some safe private conveyance or by post, which may first offer; also a Bill of the Cost as well for Mr. Bishop's fees as for your own trouble and attention in this Business, which I will transmit to you without delay.

And am &c.

I shall set out from this for Pokeapsey to-morrow; the pamphlet you need not return.

Hartford, 1st Oct., 1782.

To Jon. Ingersoll, Esq., New Haven.

Brig. Gen. Hazen to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Lancaster, 1st October, 1782.

Sir,

I had the honor of your Excellency's letter of the 23d of September last, which I did not conceive at that time required an answer, since which I have received your favour of the 27th same month, in answer to which I have to acquaint you, Sir, that on Mr. Carnahan's presenting your first letter, I told him the officers required should attend him or a Serjent and twelve men from York Town, either as he pleased, that as the Officers had neither Horses or Money to bear their expences, I thought he had better take the men, who would march at the rate of thirty-five or forty miles a day, and perfectly secure him and his Money from any danger, on

otherwise I would receive the Money as your Excellency had directed. Mr. Carmahan replied that he could not find horses for the Officers and much less, bear their expenses, and that he thought a Serjent's party, on foot, would delay him too long; he therefore concluded to carry the Money on to Carlisle, and in case Col. Butler, with whom he was intimately acquainted, could not escort him, he would leave a part of it with somebody at Carlisle, and venture on with the remainder. This, Sir, is all I know of the matter.

I have the Honor to be, with great respect,
Your Excellency's most obedient,
and most obedt Devoted humble servt,
MOSES HAZEN, Brig. Gen.

Directed,
(Public service.)
His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire, President of the state of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia.

Petition of Joshua Fisher & Sons, 1782.

To the President & Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania
The Request of Joshua Fisher & Sons, of the City of Philadelphia, Merchants.
Respectfully Sheweth,

That by the decease of Jabez Maud Fisher, one of the House in England, in the year 1779, several large Transactions in the Mercantile way were left in an unsettled State in the City of New York & in England. That the Merchants with whom he was concerned have repeatedly, by Letters, requested that some one of the House would come to England, in order to adjust his affairs, having found upon tryal that his Administrators could not do it to the satisfaction of all concerned. That the House, for want of communication with their said partner, during his Life, & with his Administrators since, have not sufficient knowledge of the nature & extent of the Concerns to enable them to give directions to Agents to settle them, & are of opinion that the Presence of one of them is essentially necessary. That Samuel R. Fisher, one of the House, is the only person convenient in their Business, who can conveniently undertake such a Voyage, & they have concluded, with the Permission of this Board, to send him for that Purpose.

They therefore Request that this Board will be pleased to grant Permission to the said Samuel R. Fisher to go to England, by way of New York & to Return when his Business shall be accomplished.

JOSHUA FISHER & Sons.

Philadelphia, 10 Mo., 1, 1782.

Indorsed,
Petition rejected. Request of Joshua Fisher & Sons. Read, October 2d, 1782.

Resolutions of Congress, 1782.

By the United States in Congress assembled, October 4, 1782.

Whereas, by the articles of confederation and perpetual union, the sole and exclusive right of making peace is vested in the United States in Congress assembled; and by the treaty of alliance between his most Christian majesty and these United States, it is declared, that neither of the contracting parties shall conclude peace nor truce with Great Britain, without the consent of the other; and the ministers plenipotentiary of these United States in Europe, are vested with full power and authority, in their behalf, and in concert with their allies, to negociate and conclude a general peace; nevertheless it appears the British court still flatters itself with the vain hope of prevailing on the United States to agree to some terms of dependence upon Great Britain, at least to a separate peace; and there is reason to believe, that commisioners may be sent to America, to offer propositions of that nature to the United States, or that secret emissaries may be employed to delude and deceive; In order to extinguish ill founded hopes, to frustrate insidious attempts, and to manifest to the whole world the purity of the intentions, and the fixed and unalterable determination of the United States;

Resolved unanimously, That Congress are sincerely desirous of a permanent and honourable peace; that as the only means of obtaining it, they will inviolably adhere to the treaty of alliance with his most christian majesty, and conclude neither a separate peace nor truce with Great Britain; that they will prosecute the war with vigour, until by the blessing of God on the united arms, a peace shall be happily accomplished, by which, the full and absolute sovereignty and independence of these United States having been duly assured, their rights and interests as well as those of their allies, shall be effectually provided for and secured:

That Congress will not enter into the discussion of any overtures for pacification, but in confidence and in concert with his most christian majesty;

That to guard against the artifices and machinations of the enemy, it be, and hereby is recommended to the several states, to be vigilant and active in detecting and seizing all British emissaries and spies, that they may be brought to condign punishment; that it be enjoined on all officers of departments, charged with persons coming from the enemy, under the protection of flags of truce, to take special care that they do not abuse their privileges, but be restrained from all intercourse with the country and inhabitants, which is not necessary for transacting the public business on which they may be sent; and lastly it is recommended to the several States, that no subjects of his Britannic majesty, coming directly or indirectly from any part of his dominions, be admitted into any of the United States during the war.

Ordered, That the honourable the minister plenipotentiary of France, be furnished with a copy of the above act, and that copies be transmitted to the ministers of these States, at foreign courts, and that in the mean time it be published.

CHAS. THOMSON, Secy*.

THOMAS SCOTT TO PRES. MOORE, 1782.

Washington County, October 4th, 1782.

Dr Sir,

Parties and prejudices run so high in this County, that I find it exceedingly difficult to keep things in any moderate bounds. There is a most unhappy disention between a part of the Court and a Great majority of the people, particularly the Gentleman first named in the Commission seems to be the aversion of a very great number, and it's almost Invariably the Case, that the Court and Jury are of a different opinion. I must confess, tho' with regrate, this Gentn discovers a disposition Rather Irritating, for the circumstances of this county, which extends so far as to render it difficult for other officers of the court to do the duties incumbant, without Incuring the displeasure of one party or other.

For these reasons I could wish that a Gent was at the Head of the Commission, who was Less disagreeable to the people, and for this purpose Have, with others, friends of this Government, often thought of requesting Council to appoint a president to this court, according to the direction of the act of assembly in that case; but allass, I must confess our commission does not afford one who is in any great degree distinguished for qualifications of this kind. However, there is a Mr James Edgar, somewhat known in Philadelphia, having served some time in both Council and assembly, for York County, and Last year in assembly for this County; who was originally on the return for Justice for Smith's Township, in this county, together with a certain Mr Johnson, which Last Hap'ned to be commissioned, being Highest in voats, and that Circumstance not properly adverted to when the returns were sent off.

Mr. Edgar you know, at least the old members of Council and Col Matlack do; and as far as my opinion is of weight, I assure Council he is vastly superior to any in our commission, and such a man as I think would Give prety General Satisfaction, could he be put at the Head of the commission.

Council have, in some instances, commissioned both those named in the return, and I think they will see equal necessity in this case. I would be very Hapy, & believe the people would be very thankfull, would Council please to do it, and I am persuaded the county would Reap real Benefit from this circumstance. I think the present president in Bedford was appointed on some Ground of Necessity, perhaps not Exceeding those mentioned.

* From a printed slip.

Inclosed is a return for Cumberland Township, the magistrate of that Township having been thrown into a new one Called Green's, by a division which I formerly mentioned.

Give me Leave to Hope for those Commissions by the bearer Hereof, who will stay in town two or three days.

I Have the Honour to be
Your Excellencies
and the Council's most
obedt. and very Humble Servt.,
THO. SCOTT.

Directed,—On publick service.

His Excellency , Esquire, president of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

p^r Favour of Mr. William Gray.

Commissioners for Defence of River Delaware, to Pres. Moore, 1782.

To the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Commissioners Appointed for procuring an Armament for the Defence of the Bay and River Delaware, beg leave to Represent; that it appears to them Necessary that some suitable vessell of Shoal Draft of water be provided, in Addition to the Ship now in the Service, for the purpose of pursueing into the Creeks, &c., the Refugees that so frequently Infest our Bay, and to be Employ'd, Occasionally, as a Tender to such larger Vessel or Vessels as may be continued in the Service, but do not find a Suitable One can be procur'd, unless built for the purpose; and haveing consulted the Different Tradesmen find the Estimation will be as follows:—

A Vessel of Forty-Eight feet Keel, Sixteen and a half feet Beam, and five feet Hold, Equipp'd Suitably, will Cost about Twelve Hundred Pounds; this Vessell may carry, when Necessary, Eight, Four or Six pound Cannon, and we Believe will Answer good purposes in the protection of the Trade.

We Therefore pray the Honourable the Council will be plea's'd to grant us their permission for Carying the Same into Execution,*

And, are with great Respect,
Their Most Obdt. Hum^e Serv^ts,
FRAN^s GURNEY,
WILL^m ALLIBONE.

Indorsed,
Oct. 4, 1782.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 384.

Pres. Moore to Brig. Gen. Irvine, 1782.

In Council,

Philad^a, October 5, 1782.

Sir,

The Council sent to you by Mr. Carnaghan, the sum of fifteen hundred pounds, for the purpose of forwarding the expedition into the Indian Country. This expedition being now laid aside, you will please to pay the money to the order of Robert Morris, Esqr., Superintendant of Finance—who engages to account for it here, agreeable to the Order of General Assembly appropriating the whole sum of which this is a part. You will also please to give Council the earliest account of the payment of the Superintendant's drafts, in order that the money may be charged to him, and the whole business immediately be closed.*

I am—

Gen. Irvine to Pres. Moore 1782.

Fort Pitt, October, 8th, 1782.

Sir,

I am honoured with your Excellencys two letters of the 4th, and 18th of September,† the last by Mr. Carnaghan with the money did not arrive here till' the 5th instant, this delay and the Detachment of General Hazens Regiment not coming at the time proposed will unavoidably prevent my moveing so soon as was intended. I have sent an officer Express to meet & hasten Genl. Hazens men, and tho' I am not certain what day they can arrive, take for granted if at all, they will be here before the 20th and as the business would be impracticable later; have fixed on that day to march from Fort McIntosh, a post thirty miles advanced of this place—Sixty Rangers are counted to me as part of the men for the Expedition, these I am not yet informed where they are to come from. Three hundred Militia ordered by Congress, from, below the Mountain are also counted, these are not only so far short of the number, but so few of them are fit, or in any manner Cloathed or Equiped for such service that most of them would be a dead weight or incumberance; add to this their term of service is nearly expired. I must therefore depend solely on the few Regulars & what Volunteers can be raised on this side the Mountain, if about six hundred actually assemble, I am determined to make the attempt, particularly as I

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 385.

† See pp. 630, 635.

have some reason to hope Genl. Clark, will cooperate with us, if this last delay does not prevent it as I had conserted measures with him, that he should attack the Shawanese at the same time I did Sanduskey. One of the Expresses to him was wounded on his way down the River, & narrowly escaped falling into the Enemys hands, I have sent another to him since that time, and a third since I received your last dispatches in order to halt him a few days till I could get ready. The Estimate will be found in general too low, and several things omitted which can not be dispensed with, the calculation for a Horse to carry two hundred is too high, however you may depend I will spare no pains to have the business done on the lowest terms. I have appointed Mr. John Irwin of Pittsburg the principal agent, If you should think proper to send any money in my absence you will be so good as to address it to him subject to my orders. It would not be possible to procure the supplys in so short a time, on any other plan than to purchase provision from the Volunteers which they had collected for their own use on the original plan of carrying the Expedition. I mean therefore to order the whole to the place of general Rendezvous, there have the whole appraised and pay for it in Bulk, tho' some unavoidable waste will take place yet I hope on the whole it will come within the price the Rations are estimated at, the greatest difficulty with me is the uncertainty of the Quantity, which can not be ascertained till the whole is collected, but there is no alternative.

I have the honor to be,
with great Respect Sir,
your Excellenc'y Most obedient Servant,

WM. IRVINE

His Excellency Wm. Moore Esqr.,

Stephen Balliott to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Whitehall, Octobr 12th, 1782.

Hond. Gent.

I have forwarded your Dispatches to Capt. Shrawders* quarters on Sadurday night after I left Town, but Capt. Shrawder Took up his march from Gnaden Hutts (fort Allen) on Sadurday Morning, into the woods for Sunsburry, & have not heard of him since. The Militia are Partly all gone home if I am well Informed. If any Troops are to be Stationed in this County This winder & Next

* See Col. Rec. Vol. XIII., p. 380.

Campaign I would Recomend to Council, to Advertise for Contractors to Come in Some Time in Novbr. next so that they might Lay in some Salt Provisions without which Soldiers must suffer

I am Hond. Gentn.

your Humble Servt.

STEPHEN BALLIOT.

Directed,

His Excellency the President & The Honble. the Executive Council, Philadelphia.

JOHN ARMSTRONG, JR., TO VICE PRES. POTTER, 1782.

Sir,

Should the place of Secretary to the Supreme executive Council be vacated, by resignation or otherwise, I would beg leave to present myself to the consideration of that Honorable body, as a Candidate for that appointment. I am sufficiently aware that I stand unsupported by any claim, which another applicant may not urge with equal propriety. My pretensions rest chiefly upon my attachment to the State and my reverence for the Government. To these I may add, and perhaps to some effect, a long unrewarded service in the field—convinc'd that to a patriotic Council, the claims of a soldier can neither be offensive nor indifferent.

Should this application succeed, it shall be the first object, and invariable rule of my conduct to deserve the esteem it supposes, and in any future event cannot fail to add another obligation to the respect with which,

I am Sir,

yours & the Honbe. Councils,

most obedient Humble Servt.

JOHN ARMSTRONG. JR.,

Directed,

The Honorable James Potter Vice President.

Philadelphia, 15th, October 1782.

PROCLAMATION OF CONGRESS FOR A THANKSGIVING, 1782.

By The United States in Congress Assembled.

Proclamation.

It being the indispensable duty of all nations, not only to offer up their supplications to Almighty God, the giver of all Good, for his gracious assistance in a time of distress, but also in a solemn and public manner to give him praise for his goodness in general, and especially for great and signal interpositions of his providence in

their behalf; therefore, the United States in Congress Assembled, taking into their consideration the many instances of divine goodness to these States in the course of the important conflict in which they have been so long engaged—the present happy and promising state of public Affairs, and the events of the War in the course of the year now drawing to a close, particularly the harmony of the public Councils, which is so necessary to the success of the public Cause; the perfect Union and good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between them and their Allies, notwithstanding the artful and unwearied attempts of the Common Enemy to divide them; the success of the Arms of the United States and those of their Allies, and the acknowledgement of their Indpendence by another European power, whose Friendship and Commerce must be of great and lasting Advantage to these States, do hereby recommend it to the Inhabitants of these States in general, to observe, & request the several States to interpose their Authority in appointing and Commanding the observation of Thursday, the 28th Day of November next, as a day of solemn thanksgiving to God for all his mercies; and they do further recommend to all ranks, to testify their gratitude to God for his goodness by a cheerful obedience to his Laws, and by promoting, each in his station and by his influence, the practice of true and undefiled religion, which is the great foundation of public prosperity and national happiness.

Done in Congress, at Philadelphia, tha 11th Day of October, in the Year of our Lord, 1782, and of our Sovereignty & Independence, the Seventh.

JOHN HANSON, Presidt.

CHA. THOMSON, Sec'y.*

Indorsed,

Read in Council October 15, 1782.

Council to Gov. Livingston, of N. J., 1782.

In Council, Philad^a, October 16, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 9th instant to His Excellency, Wm. Moore, Esqr., came to hand after the expiration of his office of President,† which has occasioned some delay in the present answer.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 397.

† His term expired as member of Council at this date, and of course as President of it—to which he was elected on the 14th November, 1781, and the election for his successor for President, and also of Vice President, did not occur till Nov. 7th, 1782, when John Dickinson was elected by a vote of 41, over James Potter, who had 32; and James Ewing, Vice President, over James Potter, 39 to 34. Pres. Moore appears to have attended, for the last time, the meeting of 8th Oct., and Vice President Potter presided at all the subsequent meetings till the election of the 7th Nov., 1782.

The Council referred to your Excellency some of the applicants for permission to go into New York, from an apprehension that you might have had some extraordinary reason at the time for preventing any persons passing into that city, and the Council of Pennsylvania would not by any means have prevented the pursuit of any object which it was probable you might have had in view. Your Excellency will, we hope, excuse the trouble we have given you, as it arose from our respect to your State. The Rules which you have laid down to yourself respecting Passes to N. York are similar to those which we had proposed to have adhered to; but the advantages which were derived from a deviation in the case of mercantile prisoners, were so important and the distresses of some of them so affecting that we were induced sometimes to depart from them. However we are determined to grant no passes when there is not great reason to believe the cases render them absolutely necessary; as we have felt great inconveniency from the intercourse which has been kept up between this city and the enemy.

Hon. Thomas Smith to Council, 1782.

Gentlemen,

By a resolution which is just now passed, General Washington is at liberty to continue or abandon the Post at Wioming, as he shall judge most for the public good, the former resolution on that subject notwithstanding—indeed the former resolution was optional with the General, But from his letter on this subject, I have good reason to believe that the Continental Troops will be withdrawn, unless a representation is made to the General of the apparently pernicious consequences of such a measure.

I objected to any new resolution being passed at present:

1. Because it was not necessary, the former resolution leaving the matter to the discretion of the General.

2dly.- Because Harmony subsisted at present between the two contending States of Pennsylvania & Connecticut, which had not been interrupted since those troops were stationed there; But if they were withdrawn, either the one party or the other might get the exclusive Possession of the Post, and then it would be easy for the Party in Possession to raise obstacles to the decision of the dispute & procrastinate it to a dangerous length, and I ventured to predict that this would be done or at least attempted, and even should it be decided notwithstanding all attempts which might be made & prevent a determination and that determination should be against the Party in Possession, I dreaded the Consequences.

3dly. That this Post was the Keystone of protection to a great extent of the frontiers of Pennsylvania, and I was so unfortunate as to be decidedly of an opinion directly the reverse of that of the General, respecting the peaceable disposition of the Indians—and

may Heaven grant that the event may prove my want of judgment on this point! and that countermanding the Expedition may be followed by salutary effects!

I give Council this information in order that, if they are of opinion there is any weight in my sentiments, they may make such representations to the General as they shall judge the good of the State may require. There is perhaps a necessity for removing the Troops there at Present, if they are so undisciplined & their conduct so irregular & unmilitary as represented; but that operates only as a reason for their being replaced by others & not for evacuating the Post. The Council will, I hope, excuse my officiousness on this occasion, and ascribe it to my anxiety for the Peace of the frontiers.

I am, Gentlemen,

your very humble Servant,

THOMAS SMITH.*

Octr 18th, 1782.

Council to Gen. Washington, 1782.

In Council,

Philadelphia, October 19th, 1782.

Sir,

The Council having received information that Congress have referred to your Excellency's determination the question whether the Federal troops shall be withdrawn from Wioming, and conceiving that the withdrawing the garrison from that place may be attended with inconveniencies and dangers to Pennsylvania, we think it a duty incumbent on us to suggest our apprehensions therefore to you, in full confidence of your impartial consideration of the case under all its circumstances.

We conceive that the pacific disposition of the Indians ought not to be so far relied on as to withdraw any of the Garrisons from the frontiers, and, perhaps, least of any the garrison at Wioming, which more immediately covers a great extent of country against those nations of Indians whose resentments have been excited by an actual invasion of their country and in whom a vindictive temper is the characteristic of the nation. And should the assurances of their present amicable temper be fully confirmed, we must candidly say we have too much reason to fear great inconveniencies and dangers will arise from the contest which will immediately arise between our State and that of Connecticut respecting the possession of that country; For we do not wish to conceal our unwillingness to have the absolute and entire possession of that country fall into the hands o the people of Connecticut, who we conceive have been introducing

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 398.

settlers there directly in the face of a resolution of Congress recommending a contrary conduct to both States, which has been strictly complied with on the part of Pennsylvania. The truth is, that the people of this State have hitherto been hardly restrained from a complaint against the keeping up that garrison, as some of them have conceived, for the purpose of supporting a settlement intruded into the State, but should it now be removed at a time when they hope that the controversy between the two States respecting that country is drawing very near to a final determination, they would be greatly irritated, under an apprehension that the measure had been solicited by the people of Connecticut with a view of thereby gaining the entire possession of the country, & the consequences may become distressing to both countries. Indeed we conceive that the entire possession of that country put into the hands of the people of Connecticut would be a measure very far from tending to secure a ready compliance on their part with the determination of Congress in case it should happen to be unfavourable to their claims, and should the determination be in favour of Connecticut no inconveniency can arise to that State from the continuance of the Garrison until the decision be obtained.

We should be greatly distressed to see the present tranquility interrupted and a scene of confusion and bloodshed introduced just at the close of a controversy in which the People of Pennsylvania have from the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, shewn so much moderation & forbearance, and therefore we interest ourselves with earnestness upon the occasion, and solicit your Excellency not to withdraw that Garrison. How far the want of discipline or long continuance of the troops in that place may render an exchange of the garrison proper or necessary your Excellency can best determine; but we hope they will not be withdrawn until the determination of Congress is known and submitted to.

I am, with the greatest esteem & regard,

your Excellency's

most obedient Servant.*

John Gloninger to V. P. Potter, 1782.

Lebanon, October 24th, 1782.

Sir,

I received the Letter written by the Hon'ble the Supreme Executive Council to Col° Adam Orth, inclosing Petitions signed by sundry Inhabitants of Col° James Mercer's Battalion of Lancaster County, respecting Militia Fines, together with directions to Col° Orth to enquire concerning the cases therein Stated and report to

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 898,

Council forthwith. Col° Orth is gone to the State of Virginia on private Business and will not return until some Time in the Month of December, during his Absence I am directed to Transact the Business respecting his Department.

In the absence of Col° Orth I enquired concerning the cases Stated in the said Petition and examined the Names of the Signers thereof, and found that a great Number of the Petitioners are not charged with any Militia Fines, having signed the Petition from motives of false Tenderness and a design to please and redress the disaffected People (who are Justly indebted the Fines wherewith they now stand Charged.) They Petition "that another Court of Appeal should be alllowed to "enquire whether regular notice has been served on them or not. I can positively assure Council that Col° James Mercer, (one of the representatives in the House of Assembly for this County, who will deliver this Letter and wait on Council for an answer, and who can give you a more particular account of the Matter) and myself assisted Col° Orth in holding Courts of Appeal in three different Townships of the Petitioners and all Justice was done to the Appealants.

"They mention in their Petition that they have been and still are "willing to serve their Country when thereto legally required. But they never have and in my opinion Numbers of them never will, willfully serve their Country if ever so regular notify'd. They complain that the Money was never demanded when it became due. I have been in Company with the late Sub Lieutenant of that district and amongst other conversation asked him why he never Collected them Fines as soon as they became due agreeable to Law, he gave me for Answer that he received Several menacing Letters which had been put up at trees in his rout of Collection, requesting him not to Venture himself any more out on that Business on pain of loosing his Life. Therefore in Order that the said Petitioners may not get any advantage of the other Battalions of this County (a great Number of them having readily complied with the law, and paid their Fines as soon as they became due, and a great number of the delinquents having lately paid their Fines, and in Order to give Satisfaction to the good people who have Faithfully served their Country on all Occasions whilst the said disaffected have sat easey, and neither rendered their Personal Service nor contributed in the Pecuniary way, I humbly conceive the said Petitioners ought not to have any further redress.

I am with due regard,

your Honour's most ob^t and very H'ble Servant,

JOHN GLONINGER,*

Sub Lieu^t for Lan^r Cy.

P. S. Your early Answer would be very acceptable. J. G.

Indorsed,

Read in Council, Nov. 17, 1782, Lancaster County. Read the

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 724.

second time Novr 13, Ordered, that Mr. Orth be directed to proceed according to law.

T. MATLACK,
Sec'y.

Directed,
On public Service.
The Honourable James Potter, Esquire, Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
Hon^d Col^o Mercer.

WM. BRADFORD, JR., ATT'Y GEN., TO V. P. POTTER, 1782.

Wednesday Morning.

Dear Sir,

I had last Evening the honor of receiving a *certificate* of the Attainder of Gideon Vernon & others. This, however, cannot be admitted as legal Evidence; nothing but the record itself, or a *verbatim Copy*, properly certified, in the case before us, can be received by the Court. I am, therefore, under the necessity of troubling you on this occasion once more, & take the liberty of requesting that the Messengers may be dispatched with all Expedition. The Grand Jury will probably rise this night, & it will be of advantage if the proclamations can be received before they do so. Any fees the secretary may be entitled to on this occasion will be charged to the Def^ts & paid to the Sheriff for him. He will, therefore, be pleased to charge them.

I am, Sir, your most obedient
& very humble Servant,

Wm BRADFORD, Jun.

Directed,
The Hon'ble James Potter, Esq., Vice President & Commander in Chief of Pennsylvania.

GEN. WASHINGTON TO V. P. POTTER, 1782.

Head Quarters, 26th Octob^r, 1782.

Sir,

I have been honored with your letter of the 19th instant. The subject upon which it is written has never, as you mention, been referred to me by Congress, and should it be, I shall be extremely averse to deciding upon it, for reasons which must be obvious to you.

Some little time ago the Secretary at War made a question upon the expediency of continuing the Garrison at Wyoming. My answer was, that it was my wish, for the sake of discipline, to have it withdrawn, But that it having been placed there by the immediate order of Congress, I did not look upon myself at liberty to withdraw it without their express direction. The propriety or impropriety of the measure, therefore, had best be discussed before that Honorable Body.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most ob^t and h'ble Servt,

G^o WASHINGTON.*

The Hon'ble James Potter, Esq.

Directed,

Letter from His Excellency, Gen. Washington.

Col. Saml. Hunter to V. P. Potter, 1782.

Sunbury, October 26th, 1782.

Your favour of the 18th Inst. I Received, in which you Inform me Council Aproves of the Contract I made with Weitzel and Gray. I am sorry to Inform you that the Savages still continue their cruel Hostilities against the Inhabitants of this County. The 8th Inst. the Enemy Wounded one man at Wyoming, And took Another Prisoner, the 14th they Killed and scalped an old Couple on Chilisquake, (the name of Martin) about one mile and a half from Col. James Murray's, and took three young Women Prisoners, being all the family that was in the House. This old Couple being Man And Wife, I saw Laying Killed and scalped, And was one that Helped to Bury them. The 24th Inst. They Killed and scalped Serj. Edward Lee of Captain Robison's Company, and took one Robt Caruthers Prisoner, about two miles from Fort Rice. Captain Robison with a party of his Company sett off in Pursuit of the Enemy and I hope May come up with them.

This is the way we are served by these Perfidious Enemy after all the Assurances that his Excellency, General Washington, Rec^d of the British permitting no more partys of the Savages to be sent out Against the Frontiers. It appears very Like a scheme of General Carleton to put a stop to our Expedition, Which I wish had gone on, As it Certainly would put a stop to the Enemy from Committing Any Hostilities this Fall on the Frontiers. Those Last Murders deter the Inhabitants much from going back to their places till the Winter setts in, As they can have no Confidence in any Intelligence of the British that a stop will be put to the savages

* See page 653,—also Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 399.

this fall from Committing their Usual Barbaritys, And further as The Militia that was serving their Tower of Duty in this County, from Berks, their times are Expired, and the Company of Militia from Cumberland County and the Chief of Robison's Six Month's Men will be free some time Next Month, so that there will be but about forty of Captain Robison's Men to do Duty, And Let them be ever so Alert it cannot be Expected that Numbers could give Confidence to the poor People in Going back to their Places, As Martin's family that Were Killed and Taken had only gone back to their Own place a few Days before this happened them.

I expect the Orders I Rec^d from Council the 27th Ult., will Not be binding upon Me in Regard of our Militia. I think the Inhabitants of Wyoming a Little Premature in Petitioning his Excellency, General Washington to* Remove the Troops from there, but I am Certain they have some Scheme in it, as the tryal is soon to come on between Connecticut and this State they want no Troops there. As for further Inteligence I Refer you to the Bearer, Col. William Cook.

I am, Dr Sir, With Every sentiment of Esteem,
Your Most Obed^t, Very Huble serv^t,
SAM. HUNTER, L. N. C.

N. B.—Inclosed I send you a Deposition in Regard of Martin and his Wife being Killed, which you may be Assured is the truth
S. H.

Directed,

Honorable James Potter, Esq., Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council, &c., Philadelphia.

Deposition of Samuel Hunter, 1782.

Northumberland County, ss., State of Pennsylvania.

Personally apeared before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace for Sd. County, Samuel Hunter, who being Duly sworn according to Law, Deposeth and sayeth that he with ten or fifteen more men in Company, was present and see the Corps of John Martin and his wife who was killed and scalped by the savages on the Frontiers of Sd. County the 14th of October 1782 and that there was three young Women taken prisoners the same Day which there is no act. of as yet and further sayeth not.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28 October 1782.
JNO. BUYERS.

SAM. HUNTER.

* See page 652–653.

Cap. Thomas Robinson to Pres. Potter, 1782.

Northumberland 31 October 1782.

Sir,

I Embrace this opportunity of Informing your Excellency that notwithstanding the greatest Care is Taken to Discover the aproches of the Indians they are fortunate Enough to Escape, on the 14th, Instant a party Came to the House of John Martin in the setlement of Chilisquake Killed and scalped the Man and his wife, Took prisoners a Girl of 7 years of age & 2 young wemon, the affair was not Instantly Discovered By which means they had an opportunity of Escaping,—and on the Twenty fourth Inst. Sergeant Edward Lee and Robert Carrethers was sent out from Fort Rice as spies about 2 Miles from the Fort a party of Indians (supposed 11) had formed an ambuscade, fired on them, Killed & scalped Lee. Carrethers is not found so we Imagine he is Taken, They were Excellent woodsmen as well as good Soldiers. The stoping the Expedition has Created great uneaseness among the people here as there are no appearances of Hostilities Ceasing with the Indians.

I am Sir with every sentiment of Esteem,

& Respect your Excelleneys,

most Humble Servant,

THOS. ROBINSONS.
Captn. of P. Rangers.

P. S. The Troops here are much Distressed for money, I hope by this Time Council will be able to send some money for that Purpose, should this not be the Case I would Beg to Have some on account for myself as I am Constantly Teased by People that I have Borrowed from for the uses of the Company and who are Realy in want.

T. R. C.

Directed,

His Excellency The President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvaina.

Per Mr. Daniel Rees.

William Bradford, Jr., Att'y Gen., to Vice-Pres. Potter, 1782.

Sir,

I beg leave to return to the Council, the papers which were sent to me relative to the Case of James Molesworth, who was executed in this State, for being a Spy, by virtue of the Sentence of a Court Martial.

I am clearly of opinion, That the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania could acquire no interest whatsoever in the real or personal property of James Molesworth, by virtue of this sentence & execution: that they occasioned no forfeiture of Estate or Corruption of Blood: and consequently that his legal representatives are intitled to such property as was vested in him at the time of his Execution.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient

& very humⁱ Servᵗ,

Wᵐ BRADFORD, jun.

Directed,

The Honble. James Potter, Esq., Vice President of Pennᵃ*

Capt. Philip Shrawder to Hon. John Van Campen, 1782.

Chesnuthill, Novᵐ 4, 1782.

Dear Sir,

The Time of your Departure from Philadelphia drawing nigh, induced me to take this Opportunity to remind you of Matters I mentioned in my former Letters. In the Begining of Septᵐ last, our late President mentioned in your Presence, to have my Company recruited during the Winter, to about an hundred Men, with the Addition of an other Officer, by which Means the Militia might be spared, and the state save a good Deal of Expence; if your honorable Board should think proper to give an Order on the Treasurer at Easton for recruiting Money and some pay, I would beg the favour to bring them up at your Leaving the City. As soldiers also are subject to sickness, a small Trifle of Medicines timely applied might prevent a great disorder, which, if it cannot be done, will make a soldier for a great while unable to do Duty, and at the same Time cause a good Deal of Cost, beside other Inconvenience. Since my Return, I have several sick, and especially Jos. Ellis, in the small Pox; perhaps the Honᵇˡᵉ Council, upon Representation will grant a small supply of Medicines for the Use of my Company.

In my former, I observed I had been informed that Col. Balliet had declined providing for the Troops of this County for Want of Money; and as this happened so suddenly, just at the Approach of the Winter, when Beeves should be salted down for the Use of the Troops during the Winter and Spring Months, untill fresh Meat could be got again, which in these Parts will not be before the Middle of June. Considering these Matters, I prevailed on Captᵃ John Gregory, who had been all along employed by Col. Balliet to supply me, to purchase Cattle & salt them down for the above Purpose.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 385.

If the Finances of the State would admit to furnish said Captn Gregory with a small Supply of Money, please to obtain an Order for the same. If the Socks and Knapsacks have not been forwarded before, Mr Wm Serfas could, if ready, bring them up on his Waggon.

I have the Honour to be,
with due Respect, Dear sir,
Your most obedient and
most humble servant,
PHILIP SHRAWDER.

Directed,

The Honble John Van Campen, Esqr, at Mrs Clinton's, the Corner of Chestnut and Third street, Philadelphia.

Gen. Washington to Pres. of Pennsylvania, 1782.

Head-Quarters, Newburgh, 5th Nov^r, 1782.

Sir,

I must request your Excellency to make it a Rule in future, when persons apply for Liberty to go to or within the Enemy's Lines, to insert in your passports, that they shall repair to Dobb's Ferry, which is the only post from whence Flags are sent or at which they are received. This is absolutely necessary to prevent that illegal Intercourse & Traffic which are now carried to so great a Height. I am induced to mention this to your Excellency, because a Mr. Craig, who lately obtained a passport from the Executive of the State, went in by the Way of Elizabeth-Town or some place not authorized, and came out by Dobb's Ferry. Mr. Craig's passport did not direct his going in by any particular Route, and he might not have known he was infringing a Regulation;—But if Dobb's Ferry is specified, and the Route should be departed from, Ignorance cannot be plead in Justification.

I have the Honor to be,
With the greatest Respect,
Your Excellency's
most Obedient Servant,
G^o WASHINGTON.

His Excellency The President of Pennsylvania.

Dorsey Pentecost to President, 1782.

Washington County, Novembr. 6th, 1782.

Sir,

By a gentlemen who was at the Last Westmoreland Court I am inform'd that a Mr. Brackinridge who I understood is late from Philadelphia reported there that some representations had been

through the Course of the last summer made (from this County) to your Honorable Board as well as to the speaker of the House to the Prejudice of my Character; what those representations was, the Gentlemen could not inform me (only that they were of a very Capital nature) and my Invention refuses the Least Information, and indeed I must have the Insight of the Devil or at least some of his coadjutors, for to Look into the dark machinations of a Grope of Judges who form their Helish Councils in Private and send their representations by their own Brethren.

The Gentleman tels me that if he understood Mr. Brackinridge* right, some depositions has reached the State House the Subject of which He could not perfectly collect as Mr. Brackinridge dealt in that amiable Doctrin of Enuendoes, and his Invictives was rather in the Generals, However they ware (or ware made) so Consequential as to be refered to a Committee, who called on Mr. Brackinridge for Information on the subject. That Truely wise and good man (no Doubt with the Sanity of a Divine) told them that the Charges were true but the Committee with some members of your Board Concluded that I was a Character too Insignificent for their notice. If the Insignificancy of character is a Justifying circumstance perhaps or its Possible they were right, But Sir, However Insignificant the character may appear to those Gentlemen it's of the first Consequence to me, and when the character is duly considered it may not appear in that very Trifling and rediculous point of view to all the World as it did to those Gentlemen, for the object is nothing Less than one of the first officers of the State, and a member of your Honorable Board, and one as Tanacious of his own & Tender of others characters as any member of that Board, and from what authority they received their information (Except from their said Privy Councellor) I am really at Loss to know, but suppose it must be from the best authority to produce the aforesaid very mild determination, but let their authority be what it will and their Power derived from whence it may I am obliged to deny their Supremacy and plead to their Jurisdiction, and therefore Sir, am under the necessity of requesting a Copy of the Charges Exhibited as I may have it my Power to defend, and permit me Sir, to ask its assurance of the grant, that your Honorable Board will order an Investigation for I am Conscious of no Crime and Consequently am not afraid to hear, this is so reasonable a request that I rest in full assurance it will be granted, for however Trifling and Insignificent it may appear to the spectator its of the first Important Consequence to the actor, and Sir I would wish to assure you that I only desire to stand in that Estima ion with your Excellency and all the world that I mérit, and Surely no man would wish to withhold it from me, but I realy have not credulity enough to beleive such representations has been made as reported by Mr. Bracken-

See page, 572.

ridge for I cannot help flattering myself that my character was not so very Insignificent when I left you, that not one single member would have advised me of such representations having been made besides Exparty Testimony could never have operated to the Prejudice of any man in a Board of your Lenity and Wisdom, though Retrospective Laws, and that Dangerous Doctrine of Expedience and Conveniency, I am apprised is a favourite theme with some, yet I have never known any thing, or Discovered the Least Symptoms of it in the Executive of this State much Less to Condemn in so positive a manner, a man upon Exparty Testimoney.

Please to Excuse a Degree of warmth in Some Expressions in this Letter, and if it falls short of that merit that an Epistle of this kind Demand, I hope when the occasion is Considered by an Impartial mind, the feeling heart will Conclude the writer in some measure Excuseable, but perhaps on Cool reflection it might have been as well otherwise. I would be very sorry, Injured as I conceive I am, to be guilty of Indecent or ungentlemanly Language even to a Hotintott, but I must Confess my spirits are violently agitated on this occasion, and I wish to be sifted as Chaff in the wind for I am at the Defence of the utmost malace if Truth only can be brought out.

The Bearer of this is Col. Matthew Ritchie, one of the Representatives for this County, and who, if I understand mankind, is a worthy and good man, and upon your acquaintance with him I flatter myself you will find to be a Gentleman and worthy your notice; he just called on me this morning on his way down though in a Hurry I prevailed on him to wait while I am writing this not very Laconic Epistle.

I have the honor to be, with the highest Esteem, for the Gentlemen of your Board,

Your Excellency's most obdt. and very Humbl. Servt.

DORSEY PENTECOST.

Directed,
His Excellency The President of Pennsylvania.
Hond. by Cap. Ritchie.
Indorsed,
[Read in Council Novr. 26th, 1782.]

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1782.

Compt Generals office,
Philada. Novr. 8th, 1782.

Sir,

I have hitherto had the Expenses of this office, for a sett of Books and other Stationary defrayed by orders of Councils drawn on the Treasurer of The State, There are other expenses of a Similar nature which have & must now be incured, such as expenses of removing

the office, repairs for the room I now occupy, half a Dozen of Chairs, a Table, wood and Candles for the winter season also a Green Cloth for the Table. Altho The act of Assembly which Constitutes this office makes no Express provision for such expense yet surely it cannot be meant that they should be defrayed out of the Salary of £500 ⅌ annum allowed me therein.

I have therefore to request that you will please to have an order passed on the State Treas. in my favor for twenty pounds specie which I will account for by the disbursements aforesaid.

I am with respect,
your Excelly. obedt. Servt.
JN. NICHOLSON.

Directed,—His Excelly John Dickinson Esqr., present.
Indorsed,—[Read in Council same day & dismissed.]

Col Richd. Butler to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

Philada. 9th, Novr. 1782.

Col. R. Butler's most respectful compliments to his Excellency the President & Council begs leave to mention that the time of the eighteen months men is nearly expired—wishes to know if it be agreeable to the opinion Council that they be engag'd for the war—the advantage of getting them is obvious being now made soldiers,—prays an answer if not inconvenient.

Directed,
His Excellency John Dickenson Esqr., President in Council, Philada.

John. Nicholson to Assembly, 1782.

Compt. Generals office, Novr. 12th, 1782.

Sir,

By an act of assembly April 13th 1782, I am directed to pay off in State money to such as choose to receive it one third part of their Depreciation, Certificates, &c., I have heretofore drawn £18,500, since the sd. 13th Apr. which I have paid away conformably to instructions, and have laid my accounts before the Honble. The Assembly for liquidation. I must request an order for further sums for like purposes viz, one for £82, 12, 6, which is wanting to balance my accot. now before the Assembly and another for £500 both to be accounted for.

I have the Honor to be,
your Excelly. most obedt. Servt.
JNO. NICHOLSON.

There have been applicants waiting for some time, I meantd. it some time ago to one of the Honble. members but suppose thro' multiplicity of business twas forgot.

State of Pennsylvania Paper Money, 1782.

State of Pennsylvania paper Money, Novem^r 14th, 1782.

Of Bills of Credit dated April 29th, 1780.

Sum emitted,		£100,000
Received in payment for Province Island & City Lots, and burnt by Committee of Assembly, July, 1782.		82,300
Besides several Thousands received since, not Counted, nor prepared for burning.		
Remainder in Circulation,		
Of new Continental money issued by Virtue of Act of Assembly, dated June 1st, 1780,		
Received in the Treasury for the State,		$342,000
Probably issued by Congress,		208,000
Total,		550,000
In the Treasury at present, deduct		383,000
In Circulation,		167,000

Of Bills of Credit dated April 7th, 1781.

Total sum printed and signed,		£486,500
Remains in y^e Treasury not yet issued,	£124,011	
Burnt, July, 1782,	145,400	
In the Treasury, ready to burn,	24,288	
		293,699
Remains in Circulation,		£192,801

The two last kinds of paper Money were principally received in part of Effective Supplies for 1781, and in Taxes raised by Virtue of two Acts of Assembly for funding and Sinking paper money, but more or less has been received in all kinds of payments heretofore made into the Treasury.

Novem^r 14th, 1882.

DAV^d RITTENHOUSE, Trea^r.

Directed,

For The Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Cap. Thos. Wylie to Pres. Moore, 1782.

New London In Virginia, 18th Nov^r, 1782.

Sir,

Inclosed I have sent a Return of the Pensylvania Corps of Artillery Artificers, Adopted by the Honorable, the Assembly, at their Setting In March, 1782, And are now in service. I should have

made the Return Immediately after the Act passed, but the Core being Under marching Orders to the Southward, Obliged me to prepare the accounts of the Officers and privates that late belonged to the Reg^t, Ready for settlement for their monthly pay, due from the 1st August, 1780, And also for the Depreciation of their pay, Which, with preparing to March, Imployed the short time I had to stay in Philad^a, very busy. With an assurance that I shall Ever make it my study to Discharge the duty assigned me whilst in Commission.

I Remain with Due Respect and Esteem,

Your Obed^t, Humble Servant,

THO^s WYLIE, Capt.,

Comd^t p. Corps Art^y Artificers.

His Excellency, William Moore, Esquire.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1782.

Private.

State of Pennsylvania.

Thursday, November 19, 1782, A. M.

The report of the Committee appointed Novr 16th, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the contents of the letter from Brigadier General Irvine, dated at Fort Pitt, Octr 29, 1782, was read the first time, and on motion, and by special order, the same was read the second time, and adopted—and is as follows, viz,

From the information given by a Member of the present situation of the Western Frontiers, and the disposition of the inhabitants—your Committee and Council were unanimously of opinion, that it would be a wise and prudent measure to empower Council to select and appoint one or two proper Persons to travel through and reside for some time in that Country, in order by necessary information to bring over the deluded to a proper sense of their Duty—your Committee are induced to offer these sentiments to the House as business of a private nature, because when Men are abandoned, or actuated by Interest or Ambition—Measures, such as this, though evidently designed for the most salutary purposes, they would set forth in a different point of view—and perhaps, by misrepresentation prevent the desired happy effect. In expectation the House may be of this Sentiment, We presume to lay before them the following Resolve,

Resolved,

That the Supreme Executive Council be empowered to select and appoint one or two proper persons to travel through and reside for in the Counties of Westmoreland and Wash-

ington, by necessary information to bring over our deluded fellow Citizens to a proper sense of their Duty—and that this House will defray the necessary expenses.

Extract from the private Journal.

PETER Z. LOYD,
Clerk of the General Assembly.

Directed,

For the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council.

Prisoners on Prison Ships, 1782.

By a list handed to us, and the report of David Florence (one of the prisoners) it appears that there are at least 151 prisoners belonging to this State, now on board the Prison Ship, and Hospital Ship, at New York, of which number more than one third are in want of Cloathing—say 60. It will then be necessary to purchase

60 woollen Jackets, @
60 pr woollen Trowsers, @
60 pr coarse Stockings, @
60 Blankets, @
100 woolen Caps, @
100 pr Shoes, @
100 Shirts, @

If permission could be obtained for a small Schooner or Shallop to go round to N. Y., there should be sent

300 Bushels of Potatoes,
50 Barrels of Flour.

The Flour, Potatoes should be deposited in the hands of some person in New York to be served out to the Prisoners twice a week, the Flour to be baked in New York, and the allowance to each man should be about four pounds of Bread ℔ week.

If there could be pounds Cash lodged in the hands of the same person to procure necessaries for the unhappy persons on board the Hospital ship many lives might in all probability be saved.

If a Vessel is *not* sent with the above necessaries, a sum of Money not less than pounds should be sent with the Cloathing and deposited in the hands of to procure such supplies of Provissions as are absolutely necessary to make life supportable.

Indorsed,

Novr 19, 1782.

Robert Morris to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

Office of Finance, 23d November, 1782.

Sir,

In Pursuance of the Act of Congress of the 20th of February last, which has already been forwarded to your Excellency from this Office, I now do myself the Honor to nominate Benjamin Stille, Esqr., for Commissioner to settle the Accounts between the State of Pennsylvania and the United States, and to liquidate and settle in Speciel Value all Certificates given by public Officers to Individuals in that State, and other Claims by such Individuals against the United States, according to the Form and Effect of that Act.

This Gentleman is a Citizen of the State of Rhode Island, and recommended to me as a Man of Sense, Integrity, Industry and Knowledge of Business and Accounts. I hope he may prove acceptable, and so conduct the Business as to deserve the Approbation of all good Men.

Your Excellency will pardon me for mentioning that in no Instance the Citizen of any State will be nominated for the State to which he belongs. The evident Propriety of this Rule may render the Information unnecessary, but I thought it best to give it that no Misconception might take Place.

I have the Honor to be,

Sir, your most obedient

& humble Servant,

ROB. MORRIS.

His Excellency The Governor of Pennsylvania.

Pres. Moore to Prisoners on board Prison Ships, 1782.

Philadelphia, Novr. 25, 1782.

Gentlemen,

A Memorial has been presented, in your name, to His Excellency the President and Council, stating your case and praying their interposition to obtain your exchange. I have it in charge to inform you, that the President and Council are extremely sorry they have not any persons in their power for whom you can be exchanged; but being very desirous of doing every thing they can for alleviating the distresses of their fellow citizens in Captivity, as well as highly sensible of the inestimable value of your lives, and of your importance to the state, they, without a moment's delay, laid your case before the General Assembly, now sitting here. The House appear to be disposed readily to grant such relief as your unhappy case requires, and they now have the manner of doing it under their consideration. There remains no doubt but that measures will be taken as soon as

possible to obtain permission for some provisions to be sent to you, in addition to the allowance you are entitled to receive from the British—to provide necessaries for the sick on board the Hospital ship—and to furnish such a quanity of cloathing as may render the situation of those who are in want of it in some degree comfortable.

The time limited by the parole granted to the Gentlemen who presented your memorial being nearly expired, renders their immediate return indispensable, altho' the business they came upon is not fully compleated. You may, however, be assured that both the legislative and executive authority of the state, feel your distresses too sensibly, and are too well convinced of your importance to the state, to delay using every means in their power for your present relief, and to obtain your exchange as soon as possible.

I am Gentlemen,

with the greatest respect,

your most obedient servant,

T. MATLACK, Sec'y.

P. S.—Novr. 26th, 1782.

I have the pleasure to add, that the General Assembly have appropriated a sum of money for the purposes above mentioned, and that the Council have appointed two of its members to lay it out in the most advantageous manner.

T. M., S.

To the Citizens of the State of Pennsylvania confined on board the Jersey Prison ship, in the harbour of New York.

Dr. Franklin to Mr. Hartley, 1782.

Extract of a Letter from Doc^r Franklin to Mr. Hartley, dated Passey, November 26th, 1782.

Sir

"You may well remember that in the beginning of our Conferences, before the other Commissioners arrived, on your mentioning to me a Retribution for the Loyalists whose Estates had been forfeited, I acquainted you that nothing of that kind could be stipulated by us, the Confiscations being made by Virtue of Laws of particular States, which the Congress had no power to contravene or dispense with, and therefore could give us no such authority in our Commission. And I gave it as my opinion and advice honestly & cordially, that if a Reconciliation was intended, no mention should be made in our negociations, of those people; for they having done infinite mischief to our properties by wantonly burning & destroying Farm-Houses, Villages & Towns, if compensation for their Losses were insisted on, we should certainly exhibit against it, an account of all

the ravages they had committed, which would necessarily recall to View scenes of Barbarity that must inflame instead of conciliating, and tend to perpetuate an Enmity that we all profess a Desire of extinguishing. Understanding however from you, that this was a Point your Ministry had at heart, I wrote concerning it to Congress; and I have lately received the following Resolution—viz.:

(here take in the Resolution.)

We have not yet had time to hear what has been done by the other Assemblies; but I have no doubt that similar acts will be made by all of them; and that the mass of Evidence produced by the Execution of those Acts, not only of the enormities committed by those people under the direction of British Generals, but of those committed by the British Troops themselves, will form a record that must render the British name odious in America to the latest Generations. In that authentic Record will be found the burning of the fine Towns of Charlestown, near Boston, of Falmouth, just before Winter, when the Sick, the Aged, the Women & Children were driven to seek shelter where they could hardly find it: of Norfolk, in the midst of Winter. Of New London; of Fairfield; of Esopus, &c., &c.; besides near a hundred & fifty miles of well settled Country laid waste, every House & Barn burnt, and many hundred of Farmers with their Wives & Children butchered & scalped.

The present British Ministers, when they reflect a little, will certainly be too equitable to suppose that their Nation has a right to make an *unjust* War (which they have always allowed this against us to be) and to do all sorts of necessary mischief unjustifiable by the practice of any civilized People, which those they make War with are to suffer, without claiming any satisfaction; but that if Britons or their adherents are in return deprived of any Property it is to be restored to them, or they are to be indemnified! The British Troops can never excuse their Barbarities. They were unprovok'd. The Loyalists may say in excuse of theirs, that they were exasperated by the loss of their Estates, and it was Revenge. They have then had their Revenge. It is right they should have both?

Some of those people may have a merit with regard to Britain; those who espoused her cause from affection; these it may become you to reward. But there are many of them who were Waverers, and were only determined to engage in it by some occasional circumstances or appearances; these have not much of either merit or demerit; and there are others who have abundance of Demerit, respecting your Country, having by their Falsehoods & Misrepresentations brought on & encouraged the continuance of the War. These instead of being recompenced should be punished.

It is usual among Christian people at War to profess always a Desire of peace. But if the Ministers of one of the parties chuse,

to insist particularly on a certain Article which they have known the others are not and cannot be empowered to agree to, what Credit can they expect should be given to such professions.

Your Ministers require that we should receive again into our bosom those who have been our bitterest Enemies, and restore their Properties who have destroyed ours: and this while the wounds they have given us are still bleeding. It is many years since your Nation expelled the Stuarts & their Advocates, and confiscated their Estates, much of your resentment against them may by this time be abated. Yet if we should propose it & insist on it as an Article of our Treaty with you, that that Family should be recalled and the forfeited Estates of its Friends restored, would you think us serious in our professions of earnestly desiring peace?

I must repeat my opinion, that it is best for you to drop all mention of the Refugees. We have proposed indeed nothing but what we think best for you as well as ourselves. But if you will have them mentioned, let it be in an Article which may provide that they shall exhibit accounts of their losses, to Commissioners hereafter to be appointed, who shall examine the same, together with the Accounts now preparing in America of the Damages done by them; and state the Account, and that if a Ballance appears in their favour it shall be paid by us to you, and by you divided among them as you shall think proper. And if the Ballance is found due to us, it shall be paid by you.

Give me leave however to advise you to prevent the Necessity of so dreadful a Discussion, by dropping the Article, that we may write to America and stop the enquiry."

JOHN DONNAHILL TO COUNCIL, 1782.

Fort Pitt, December 1, 1782.

The Honourable, The Executive Council,

Gentlemen I am under the disagreeable Necessity of Letting you know that the 3 Companeys that I have the Honour to be Paymaster for, is in great Distress for want of Cash, and I am Required by the Officers to write to you to know weather I can gett Cash for them by Coming to Philadelphia, if I can I shall be verry Happy if you would Please to send me an Answer, Letting me know what Time I shall come down.

I am, Gentlemen,

y^r most Ob^t &

most H'ble Servt

JOHN DONNAHILL.

Directed,

The Governor of the Honourable the Executive Council, Philadelphia.

Commissioners for Defence of Delaware, 1782.

To the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

We the Commissioners appointed to procure and equip an armament for guarding & defending the navigation of the Bay & River Delaware, most Respectfully beg leave to Represent,

That the Cruize of the State Ship Hyder Ally is now expired, and in our oppinion the Season too far advanced to attempt fitting her out again, so as to enable her to render any Services before the next spring. We are of oppinion That a Vessel of a more suitable construction for the defence aforesaid may be Built in the course of the Winter. And to enable us to procure such a Vessel, think it wou'd be adviseable to dispose of the Hyder Ally, provided she woud sell for a Price equal or near her Value, and therefore Pray The Honble Council woud be pleased to grant us permission for the sale of the said ship.

We also beg leave to Represent that agreeable to permission obtained, we have now nearly equiped an Armed Schooner for the purpose of Defending the Bay & River Trade, and beg Leave to recommend John Snyder, as a Person in our oppinion well qualified for the Command of her. Therefore request The Honble The Council will be pleased to appoint and Commission him for that purpose.

We are with all due Respect,

The Council's

most H'ble Serv^ts,

JN^o PATTON,
FRAN^s GURNEY,
WILL^m ALLIBONE,* } Com^rs.

Philad^a, 3^d Dec^r, 1782.

Indorsed,

Representation from Commissioners for river defence.

Read in Council, Decr 5th, 1782.

John Snyder appointed to command of the schooner, and permission to sell the Hyder Ally, as proposed.

T. M.

Francis Hopkinson to Council, 1782.

Gentlemen:

I enclose for your Inspection a certified amount of Fees received by me as Judge of the Admiralty from the 13th of Sepr to the 13th of this Instant Dec^r, amounting to £46.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII, p. 445.

I pray your Honours would grant me a warrant on the Treasury for £50 on account of salary, according to Custom, & in conformity to the vote of the Honble House of Assembly passed the 13 of March last.

I have the Honour to be,

Gentlemen,

your most respectful

& obedient humble serv^t,

FRAS. HOPKINSON.

Philad., Dec. 14th, 1782.

Directed,

His Excellency, The President & Honourable The Supreme Executive Council.

Fees received by the Honourable Francis Hopkinson, Esqr, Judge of Court of Admiralty of Pennsylvania between the 13th Day of September & the 13th December, 1782.

October 4th.—	Agency of John Wright Stanly for the Crew of the Brig^r Cogdel, Cap. Stephen Tinker, as to their Shares in the Prize Schooner Lea Addressis.	£4 12
November 8th.—	John Kemp, qui tam, vs. Schooner Lady Washington.	12 10
	John Kemp, qui tam, vs. Sloop Dove,	12 10
	" " vs. Sloop James,	5 12
December 4th.—	" " vs. Sloop Chance,	7 8
	James Summers, vs. A nine Inch Cable,	3 8
		£46

I do hereby certify, That the above is a true Account of all Fees received by the Honourable The Judge of the Court of Admiralty aforesaid between the 13th Day of September last past & this Day.

JAMES READ. Register of s^d Court.

Philadelphia, December 14th, 1782.

MAJOR JAMES GORDON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1782.

Lancaster, 16 Decr., 1782.

Sir,

I beg leave to inform your Excellency that in the Month of July last, when I was in the Jerseys attending upon Captain Asgill, the store, which contained Necessaries for supplying the officers and

men of Lord Cornwallis's Army Prisoners of war at this Place, was seized upon and the Goods taken away by William Henry, Esq., the Contents of which store was sent out from New York, with an Invoice a Duplicate of which was sent to General Washington, who granted his Passports for the Flag and under that Faith was brought to this Place. I now beg the favour that your Excellency will be Pleased to make enquiry into this matter and I have no doubt but if you find the Case as I have represented it, to your Excellency you will immediately Order the Goods to be restored. I have the Honor to be,

Sir, your Excellency's
most obed^t Hble servant,
JAMES GORDON,
Major 80 Regt.

Indorsed,
1782, rec^d Decr 17th, From Major James Gordon of 80th British reg^t. Read in Council 20th Decr and Ordered, That the Sec^y write to William Henry, Esqr of Lancaster requesting him to inform Council of the circumstances of the seizure within mentioned.

Gen. Washington to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

Head Quarters, Newburg,
Decr 16th, 1782.

Sir,
Agreeably to the promise contained in my Letter of the 6th to your Excellency, I immediately made application to Sir Guy Carleton for the Passport you requested which he made no hesitation in forwarding with a very polite Letter to me; and which I have now the pleasure of enclosing.

I have the honor to be
Sir, your most obed. Servt.,
G^o WASHINGTON.

Directed,
His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esqr.

Ezekiel Robins to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

New York, December 17th, 1782.

Gentlemen,
I had the Honour of receiving your Letters of Novr. 29th address^d by his Excellency the President which was handed me the 12th Inst. by Major Beckwith A. D. C. to Sir Guy Carlton, who requested an answer respecting my accepting of your proposals,

which was deliver'd him the ensuing Day, agreeable to request. I wou'd now wish to acquaint you, that I am willing, and shall undertake to Conduct your business, in taking charge of any supplies which may be sent from you, for the relief of the Citizens of your state who are now amongst the Marine Prisoners in this Port, and in distributing the same to the said persons agreeable to your advice, as the Inclemency of the season is fast approaching, and perhaps the Supplies may not arrive as soon as needfull, on which account the Prisoners must suffer, as they are much in want of Cloathing, I thought it advisable to purchase a Quantity of Blankets and comfortable Cloathing, &c., &c., for their present relief. I hope that my Conduct in this Instance may meet with your approbation.

I am with due respect

your very humbl. Servant,

EZEKIEL ROBINS.

Directed,

His Excellency, Jn° Dickinson, Esquire, President of the Executive Council of Pensilvania.

Indorsed,

Read in Council Decr. 26, 1782.

Lord Stirling to Chas. Stewart, Esq., 1782.

Albany, Decembr 19th, 1782.

At noon.

Dear Sir,

Your favour of the 13th I received on the 17th, by Mr. Dunham; the Commissioners have given the busyness all the dispatch in their power, and I believe will enable Mr. Dunham to set out in about two hours. I now return to you the three papers you sent me.

I thank God I have prety well recovered my health, so far as relates to the Vile Bilious fever I was Seized with about five months ago; But my bowels are weak, and I still want Strength; the proper medicine is not to be had at this place; good, old, Genuine Madeira is the only Cordial I stand in need of, and I wish you would Contrive to get me a pipe or half a pipe of the very best from some of your friends in Philadelphia.

With great Sincerity, I am,

Your most Humble Servant,

STIRLING.

Directed,

Charles Stewart, Esq., New Windsor.

Sterling.

Wm. Bradford, Jr., to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

Arch Street, Tuesday evening.

Sir,

I have the pleasure of informing your Excellency that the application to Mr. Morris has been successful, and the money obtained, altho' not in the mode proposed. Mr. Morris was good enough to take an assignment of the two orders in my possession, amounting to three hundred pounds, and to advance that sum to me for the use of the state. The additional sum of Two hundred pounds which your Excellency proposed to draw for, will certainly be wanted when the Court rises. I have therefore to request that an order for that sum may be drawn & delivered to Mr. Lee, who will have the honor of waiting on you with this Letter. He will receive the money & forward it to me, if the measure should be agreeable to Council.

I set out for Trenton early in the morning which prevents a personal application on this subject.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedt servt.,

Wm BRADFORD, Jun.

S. Sterrett to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

Philadelphia, 20th Dec., 1782

Sir,

I beg leave to make application to the Honorable, the Supreme Executive Council, thro' your Excellency, for copies of their Acts, assigning lands for the use and support of the University of Pennsylvania, and to request that the same may be exemplified under the State seal, as it is the design of the Trustees of the Institution to have them recorded in the Rolls office, and deposited with their Treasurer for greater safety & security.

I have the honor to be,

with great veneration and respect,

Your Excellency's obedt & very hum. Ser.,

S. STERETT.

Indorsed,

1782, 20th Decembr. From Samuel Sterret, Esq. Read in Council, 23d of Decr, and Ordered That Copies of the Acts within mentioned be made out, and exemplified in the manner within mentioned.

Directed,

His Excellency, John Dickinson, Esq., President, &c., of Pennsylvania.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1782.

Compt. General's office, Dec. 21st, 1782.

Sir,

The sum of Money which I rec^d for the Contingent expences of this Office, in Consequence of the Order of your Hon'ble Board on the Treasurer in my favor, did not cover all the purposes which were necessary and for which I applied. I am therefore necessitated to request an Order for the further sum of ten pounds specie for the purposes afores^d.

The State money I rec^d for paying one third of Depreciation Certificates is entirely expended, I beg leave to request an Order likewise for the sum of five hundred pounds, state money on account.

I am, with very Great respect,
Your Excelly's most obed.,
Very Humble Servant,
JN^o NICHOLSON.

Directed,
His Excell'y, The presid^t of Council, present.

N. JONES TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1782.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to inclose your Excellency Copies of two Indian deeds which Mr. Osborne directed to be made out—the fees with sundry searches amount to 15s.—as this is a perquisite which Mr. Morris allows me, I request your Excellency will direct an Order to be drawn in my favour. As the making the Indian marks was attended with some extraordinary Trouble if any thing should be allowed extraordinary for it, it will be gratefully accepted.

I have the Honour to be
y^r Ex^y mo^t obed. Servant,
N^a JONES.

Directed,
His Excellency, The President of Pennsylvania.

PRES. DICKINSON TO EZEKIEL ROBINS, 1782.

In Council, Philadelphia, December 27, 1782.

Sir,

Your letter of the 17th instant* has been read in Council, and I have the pleasure to inform you that the Council approve of the purchase which you have made of a quantity of blankets and cloathing

* See page 674.

for the present relief of the marine prisoners, citizens of Pennsylvania, on board the prison ship in the harbour of New York.

This will be handed to you by Captain Kemp, who commands the Flagg sloop Cohansy, & who will deliver to you his Cargo, consisting of two hundred barrels of Flour, and one hundred bushels of Potatoes. The dunnage you will receive from Capt. Kemp and apply it as fire wood in the manner most advantageous to the prisoners.

You will please to sell one hundred & fifty barrels of the Flour for the best price you can obtain, and apply the proceeds in paying for the cloathing already purchased, procuring such further supplies as the above described prisoners stand in need of, and in suitable supplies of necessaries for such of them as may be sick on board the Hospital ship. The remaining fifty barrels of Flour to be delivered to the prisoners at the rate of four pounds per man weekly, either baked or unbaked, at their option. The Potatoes to be delivered to them in such quantities & at such times as you in your discretion may think most proper.

I shall be glad to receive from you from time to time an account of your proceedings in this business, and am with due regard & esteem,

Sir your most obed^t Servant.

JOHN DICKINSON.

P. S. The inclosed list of prisoners has been handed to the Council, & may assist you in your endeavours to determine who among the marine prisoners are citizens of Pennsylvania, altho' the Council cannot judge of its authenticity.

Directed,

To Mr. Ezekiel Robins, at New York.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1782.

Compt^r General's Office, Decr 31st, 1782.

Sir,

The sum of State money which I last received in consequence of the Orders of your Honble Board is now entirely expended and there are current demands which makes it necessary to request an Order for the further sum of five hundred pounds, to be applied to like purposes.

I have the honor to be
with very great respect,
your Excellency's
most Obed^t Servant,

JN^o NICHOLSON.

Directed,

His Excellency, John Dickinson, President.

PAPERS RELATING TO CONNECTICUT CLAIM, &c., 1782.

[The following numbered papers, all relate to the Connecticut claim and trial, which (though some of them are of dates prior to those preceding them,) it has been thought best to print in connection.]

No. 1.

After several previous meetings, The Agents all met on the 20th of April, 1782, at Mr. Bradford's, and framed the following list of Names for consideration, preparatory to the Choosing of Judges, (Viz.:)

Mr. Langdon,	N. H.
Mr. Whipple.	N. H.
Dr. Thornton,	N. H.
Mr. Holton,	Mas[s]
Mr. F. Russell,	Mas[s]
Mr. Bowedoin,	Mas[s]
Gen[l] Ward,	Mas[s]
Mr. T'y Edwards.	Mas[s]
Mr. H'y Ward,	R. I.
Mr. Cornell,	R. I.
Gen'l Green.	R. I.
Gen'l M'Dougle,	N. Y.
Mr. Benson,	N. Y.
Mr. Hubbert,	N. Y.
Mr. Wikam,	N. Y.
D. M'Knight.	N. Y.
Mr. Brearley,	N. J.
Mr. Boudinot,	N. J.
Mr. W. Patterson,	N. J.
Mr. Ellmer,	N. J.
Mr. Smith,	N. J.
Mr. J. Stephens,	N. J.
Mr. Freelinghousen,	N. J.
Mr. W. C. Houston.	N. J.
Mr. Bryan,	Penns[a]
Mr. Arch[d] M'Lane,	Penns[a]
Mr. Rittenhouse,	Penns[a]
Mr. Yeats.	Penns[a]
Mr. C. Rodney,	D.
Mr. Killing,	D.
Mr. Vandike,	D.
Mr. F. Rodney,	D.
Mr. Patterson.	D.
Mr. J. Henry,	M[d]
Mr. T. Johnson,	M[d]
Mr. Rodgers,	M[d]
Mr. Paca,	M[d]
Mr. Carroll, of C[n],	M[d]
Mr. Stoddard.	M[d]
Mr. Jefferson,	V.
Mr. Braxton,	V.
Gen'l Nellson,	V.
Colo. Gruson,	V.
Colo. Spotwood,	V.
Mr. Banister,	V.
Mr. C. Griffin,	V.
Mr. S. Griffin.	V.
Mr. Johnson,	N. C.
Mr. Hill	N. C.
Mr. Sharp,	N. C.
Mr. Caswell,	N. C.
Gen'l Howe.	N. C.
Mr. Bee,	S. C.
Colo. Lawrence,	S. C.
Mr. Crupps,	S. C.
Mr. Ferguson,	S. C.
Mr. Gadsden.	S. C.
Mr. Walton,	G.
Gen'l Elbert,	G.
Gen'l M'Intosh.	G.
Gen'l Spencer,	Conn[t]
Mr. Wadsworth,	Conn[t]
Mr. Shaw.	Conn[t]

It was also proposed to consider of some mode of procuring the necessary Testimony, and to investigate the Names proposed, and to make such additions as each in the Course of their inquiries shall deem proper. Each of the Agents was furnished with a list.

From this time to the 21st of June, we had six different meetings; we recd the following resolve of Council, (Viz. :)

In Council, Philada, June 21st, 1782.

On Consideration, Ordered,

That the Agents of the State appointed to Conduct the Cause now pending before Congress, between this State and the State of Connecticut, be instructed to use their utmost endeavours to bring the same to issue as soon as possible, consistent with the interest of the State.

Extract from the Minutes,
T'Y MATLACK, Sec'y.

The Agents of Pennsylvania appointed to Conduct the Cause now pending before Congress, &c.

We prepared Credentials and laid them before Council for their approbation.—On the 22d we met, and received our Credentials from Council,* signed by the President and Sealed with the Great Seal.

No. 2—Commission.

In the Name and *by the Authority* of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. His Ex'cy William Moore, Esqr, Prest of The Supreme Executive Council of the Said Commonwealth,

To William Bradford, Esquire, Attorney General of the said Commonwealth; Joseph Reed, James Willson, Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, and Henry Osborne, Esquires.

We, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your prudence, Integrity and Abilities, Do, by these presents, Constitute and appoint you, the said William Bradford, Joseph Reed, James Willson and J. D. Sergeant, to be our Counsellors and Agents, and you the said Henry Osborne, to be our Solicitor in the Cause now pending before The United States of America in *Congress* Assembled, between the said *Commonwealth* of *Pennsylvania* and the *State* of *Connecticut*—Hereby ratifying and Confirming whatsoever you, *Our* said Counsellors, Agents and Solicitor shall Lawfully do, or cause to be done, touching or Concerning the said Cause between the said States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

Given by Order of the Council, and the hand of——————— Esquire, President, and the Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this ——Day of June, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty and Two.†

Attest.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 318.

† The foregoing is from the rough draught.

On the 24th, we met at Genl Reed's, and from that proceeded to Congress, and being admitted, &c, the following appears on their Journals, Viz. :*

—

We attended daily at Congress from the 24th June to the 1st July, when finding the members generally averse to proceed until the return of Mr. Root, we thought it most prudent to request our delegates to let the matter remain the Order of the Day until Mr. Root's return, or it appeared he would not return in a reasonable time.

It being hinted that our Credentials were joint, and that all the Agents must be present in order to act under them, It was agreed to prepare New Credentials to avoid altercation or unnecessary delay, which being done we laid them before The Council.

July 15th.—Mr. Root having returned to Congress, we agreed to attend Congress to morrow morning in order to have the business brought on.

16th.—We attended, and being admitted to Congress, the following appears on their Journals, (to wit.)†

We requested liberty from the Council to examine the Minutes of the Council before the Revolution, which we obtained.

Mr. Osborne was directed to examine them and to take Notes of such parts as he may think Necessary in the Cause.

Some of the Agents being Necessarily out of town, we did not all meet until the 23d, at Mr. Bradford's, where it was agreed to propose a meeting with the Agents for Connecticut, agreeable to which we wrote them the following Letter.

—

No. 3.—H. Osborne to Connecticut Agents.

Philadª, July 23d, 1782.

Gentlemen,

Our desire to carry into effect the last resolution of Congress, whereby the Agents for Pennsylvania and Connecticut are directed to appoint by joint consent Commissioners or Judges to constitute a Court for hearing & determining the Controversy now depending between them, induces us to request a Conference with you on that subject to-morrow at 9 o'Clock A. M., at Mr. Reed's, in Market street, or if that should be inconvenient, that you will please to Name a place and time more agreeable for that purpose.

By order of the Agts for Pennsª,

H. OSBORNE,
Seclr & Agt.

To the Honble E. Dyer & J. Root, Esqrs, &c.

* See p. 568 of this Vol.
† See page 582, of this Volume.

July 24, 1782, 9 o'Clock A. M.

We met the Agents of Connecticut at Gen[l] Reed's and made several Verbal proposals to them respecting the mode of appointing the Judges, none of which would they agree to, in consequence of which we agreed to meet the Agents of Connecticut on Friday mor[g] next, at Mr. Wilson's, and in the mean time wrote them the following letter, viz.:

No. 4.—H. Osborne to Connecticut Agents.

Philad[a], 24th July, 1782.

Gent[n],

For the sake of precision we have concluded to reduce our proposition we made this morning, to Writing. And In order that we may establish a Mode of proceeding in the Business which is recommended to us by Congress of appointing by joint consent Commissioners or Judges to constitute a Court for hearing the matter in Question between Pennsylvania & Connecticut agreeably to the Ninth Article of the Confederation:—it is proposed by the Agents for Pennsylvania to the Agents of Connecticut, that the Number of Commissioners be Seven, Five to be a Quorum, that we shall mutually furnish to each other Lists of Names containing double the Number that is to be finally agreed upon;—that such Names as shall be found in both Lists shall stand as part of the Judges, and if there shall not be as many as are necessary, that we then proceed to some further mode of Compleating the Number proposed. But if it should happen that there shall be more than Seven Names in both lists, they be reduced to that Number by a Ballot. It is also proposed that if any objection should afterwards arise to either of the said Commissioners from a Discovery of Interest, Prejudication or the like, the same be made known to the adverse party, and if agreed to, such Comm[rs] be withdrawn and another appointed in his stead, but if any dispute arise touching the Validity of the Objection, it be referred to the Determination of Congress.

We shall be glad to be favoured with your Answer to the Above in Writing at or before our proposed meeting on Friday, and in the mean time are ready to receive and consider any proposit[n] on your part for carrying the above recited resolution of Congress into Effect.

I have the Honour to be,

Gent[n], your Ob[t] Hb[le] Serv[t],

H. OSBORNE, Solicitor,

& Agent for Penn[a].

By Order of the Agents for Penn[a].

To The Honb[l] E. Dyer & J. Root, Esqrs.

July 25th.—We rec^d from the Agents for Connecticut, the following letter, viz:

—

No. 5.—Connecticut Agents to Pennsylvania Comm'rs.

Phil^a, July 25th, 1782.

Gentlemen,

Your favour of the 24th, proposing a method for agreeing on Judges in the Case between Pensylvania & Connecticut has been duly rec^d & attended to, and on Considering it we are led to think that the method proposed will be inadequate to the object in view, for it may happen that no one name will be found in both lists, and very unlikely that the whole number proposed will—in either case we are left at large to devise some other Method for appointing the whole or a part, as the Case may be—besides we doubt whether Congress can with propriety judge between us in the Case you mention, where a Commissioner shall be found in both lists & afterwards be Objected to on acc^t of Interest, &c.

We are inclined to think that this business may be better effected & with more Satisfaction to the Concerned in the following manner, which we take the liberty to propose for your Consideration.—That the Agents for Pennsylvania & Connecticut alternately nominate a person to be approved or dissented to by the other party, & so to proceed untill we shall have agreed upon the number proposed, or shall find it to be impracticable.—Or that the agents of s^d States each make out a list of persons to the number of Seven, whom they would have to be Judges, & exchange the same with each other for approbation or dissent in part or in whole—in either of these ways no person will be appointed a Judge without the full Concurrence of both the parties—further it appears to us most probable that after attempting every other method this must be ultimately resorted to as the only way of Compleating this business, but as we expect a Conference to morrow morning, according to appointment, we shall then attend and Indeavor to agree in a method to proceed in ye business.

We are with much Respect,
your most obed^t humble Servants,

ELIPH^t DYER,
JESSE ROOT. } Agents for Conn^t.

Directed, Wm. Bradford, Joseph Reed, James Wilson, &c., Esq^rs, Agents for Pensylvania.

We then prepared a list of 14, viz.:

Judge Hubbart,	Mr. G. Reed,
Genl. McDougle,	Mr. J. Johnson,
C. J. Brearly,	Mr. Pacca,
Mr Huston,	Mr. Stone,
Mr. Hornblower,	Mr. Carroll, of C.,
C. J. Killing,	Colo. Grayson,
Mr. Vandike,	Mr. C. Griffin.

July 26th.—We met the Agents for Connecticut at Mr. Wilson's and finding our written proposals rejected, it was mutually agreed that each party should nominate seven persons and consider of that nomination until next Monday Evening, when Each should declare how many of the other list they would agree to as Judges, and that the Names in both lists should be kept secret. We then Nominated on both sides as follows:

Pennsylvania.	Connecticut.
Gov. Thos. Johnson, Md.,	Govr. Rutledge, S. C.,
Genl. McDougle, N. Y.,	Genl. Whipple, N. H.,
C. Justice Brearly, N. J.,	Wm. Bradford, R. I.,
Colo. Greeson, V.,	Judge Sergeant, Mass.,
C. Justice Killing, D.,	Genl. Howe, N. C.,
W. C. Huston, N. J.,	Govr. Jefferson, V.,
Mr Carroll, of Carrolton, Md.	Wm. Ellery, R. I.

Agreed to meet on Monday Evg, at Mr. Reed's, 6 o'clock.

July 29th.—Met the Agents for Ct at Mr Reed's.

Pennsa agrees to two of their list for Judges, viz.:	Connt agrees to two of our list for Judges, viz.:
Govr. Rutledge,	Mr. Huston,
Genl. Whipple.	Mr. Brearley.

And not agreeing to any others in the lists, we proposed an addition to each list of five Names, which when made and exchanged was as follows, viz.:

Pennsa.	Connt.
Mr. Paca, Md.,	Judge Sewell, Mass.,
Mr. Vandike, D.,	Mr. Strong, D.;
Mr. C. Griffin, V.,	Mr. Hy. Ward, R. I.,
D. Ramsey, S. C.,	Mr. Jones, V.,
Mr. G. Walton, G.	Mr. G. With, D.

Augt 2nd.—We wrote the following Note to the Agents for Connect.

No. 6.—H. Osborne to Agents of Connecticut.

Philad^a, 2nd Aug^t, 1782.

Gent^n,

I am Directed by the Agents for Penns^a to request a meeting with you this evening at seven o'clock, at Mr. Wilson's, in Order to take the additional list of Names into Consideration.

I have the Hon^r to be, &c.,

H. OSBORNE,

Sol^r & Ag^t for Penns^a.

Directed,

To the Ag^ts for Connec^t.

Agreeable to which we met at Mr. Wilson's.

Penns^a agrees to	Conn^t agrees to
Mr. Joseph Jones as one of the Judges.	Mr. C. Griffin as one of the Judges.

Then Mr. Baudain, Mass., Genl. Nellson, and Genl. Green was Nominated.

After the Agents of Conn^t were gone we considered the appointment of Judges to be a matter of the greatest Consequence, and thought it our duty to Consult the Council and our Delegates to Congress on the subject, and agreed to meet next day at the State house.

—

No. 7—Conference with Council, &c.

3d Aug^t, 1782.

At a Conference with the Council and our Delegates in Congress present.

The Presid^t,
Dr Gardner,
Genl Ewing,
Mr Bayers,
Mr Bayard,
Mr Levan.
} Council.

Mr Montgomery,
Mr Clymer,
} Delegates.

and all the Agents.

We produced the lists afors^d and asked the opin^n of the Gent^n present if it was proper to agree with the Agents of Conn^t on that list when no gent^n from the States of N. York, Delaware or

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 342.

Maryland are in the same, and it was their Opinion they ought, as they could exclude those States by Striking, it was also these gen^n opinion we ought to agree to the present list rather than run the risque of striking before Congress—it was also recommended to us to agree to Gen'l Greene, as the 7th Judge.*

The we met the Connecticut Agents at Mr. Sergeant's, When Gen'l Greene was agreed to by both parties—we appointed to meet again at Mr. Bradford's, on the in Order to prepare and sign our report of the Judges to Congress.

The we met according to appointment at Mr. Bradford's proposed and Signed a representation in the words following, viz.

—

No. 8—Agents of Penn'a & Conn. to Congress.

To the honorable the Congress of the United States of America.

We the underwritten Agents on the part of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania & of the State of Connecticut do humbly certify that in pursuance of the Resolution of Congress bearing Date the Day of last we have met & conferred together, & by joint Consent have appointed the following Gentlemen as Commissioners to constitute a Court for hearing & determining the Matter in question between the s^d States, that is to say the hon^ble William Whipple, Esqr, of New Hamshier, the hon^ble Major General Nathaniel Greene, Esqr, of Rhode Island, the hon^ble David Brearley & William Churchill Houston, Esq^rs, of New Jersey, the hon^ble Cyrus Griffin & Joseph Jones, Esq^rs, of Virginia & the hon^ble John Rutledge Esqr, of South Carolina, any five or more of whom we have agreed, shall constitute a Court & have authority to proceed & determine the Matters in difference between the s^d States.

At the same time we beg leave most humbly to request that Congress will be pleased to determine how much shall be allowed to the s^d Commissioners as a Compensation for their Services & also in what Manner, & by whom they shall be paid.

Dated the Day of Aug^t, 1782.

Eliphalet Dyer, Jesse Rood. } Agts. for Conn^t.

Signed
Wm. Bradford, Jr., Jos. Reed, Jon. D. Sergeant, H. Osborne. } Agents for Penn^a.†

Which report was delivered to our delegate to be by them presented to Congress which was done on the 9th, and Congress appointed a Committee consisting of Mr. Scott, Mr. Madison & Mr. Witherspoon to report on the same on the 14th they delivered their report.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 342. † From a rough draft.

14th, the Agents appointed a meeting at Gen'l Reed's to be on the 15th.

No. 9—Report of the Committee of Congress.

The Committee to whom was referred the application of the agents for the States of Connecticut & Pennsylvania notifiying to Congress their appointment of Commissioners for hearing and determining the matter in question between the said States, and requesting Congress to determine how much shall be allowed to the said Commissioners for their services and in what Manner & by whom they shall be paid, Report that they have duly considered such parts of the Articles of Confederation of these United States as in any wise respects the subject matter of the said Notification. That in the opinion of the Committee *no awards of Costs can* by the Laws of the Land be made by any Judicatory in any cause whatsoever unless provision be made for the purpose by some express & positive Law.

That the Articles of Confederation are intirely silent as well with respect to the allowance to the commissioners for their services in the present case as to the parties by whom & the manner in which the same shall be paid, *which allowance* as well as all other necessary Expences tho' they would properly between private parties be considered *as Cost of suit*, yet as the award of Costs as it implies not only a recompence of injury to the gaining Party but also a Penalty on the losing or litigious Party, would in the opinion of the Committee be inconsistent with the dignity of Sovereign independent States.

That the appointment of the Commissioners having been made by voluntary Act of the Parties in the mode prescribed by the Articles of Confederation, The Commissioners may lawfully proceed in the execution of their Trust at the expences of one of the Parties, if the other Party on demand made should neglect or refuse to make the necessary provision on their Part for such expence.

That the usual allowance to Commissioners in similar causes before the Declaration of Independence of these United States was a guinea ℔ Day & their Expences which allowance & Expences were generally borne & defrayed by the Parties.

That tho' Congress cannot authoritatively interpose in the present Case any further than to order the said Notification to be entered on their Journals, yet as the parties have requested them to determine what allowance shall be made to the Commissioners appointed by them & in what manner & by whom the same shall be paid the Committee beg leave to report the following Resolutions, to wit.

Resolved, that the written Notification subscribed by the respective Agents of the States of Connecticut & Pennsylvania, of the appointment of Commissioners to Constitute a Court for hearing & determining the matter in Question between the said States be

entered at length on the Journals of Congress to serve as perpetual Evidence of the said appointment.

Resolved, that it be and it is hereby recommended to each of the said contending parties to make suitable provision for the payment of one moiety of ℔ Day and the one moiety of the reasonable Expences of each Commissioner who shall undertake the Execution of the Trust, for every Day he shall attend that service, & from time to time as the same shall be by him required.

No. 10—Pennsylvania Commissioners on Connecticut Claims to V. President, 1782.

Philada. 1 Novr. 1782.

Sir,

We beg Leave to remind you & through you the honourable the Council & General Assembly that the Time is at Hand which has been fixed for the Meeting of the Commissioners at Trenton who are appointed to decide the Controversy between this State & the State of Connecticut The 12th of this Month is the Day. The Commissioners are to receive ten Dollars a Day each, one half of which must be advanced by us. At the same Time it will be absolutely necessary that adequate provision be made for your agents before the meeting of the Court.

We have the honour to be,
with great Respect yr most obedt. Hble. Servants.

Signed Wm. Bradford,
Jos. Reed,
Jon. D. Sergeant.
Jas. Wilson.

The Hon. the Vice Presidt.

No. 11—H. Osborne to Secy. Matlack.

Dr. Sir,

I am favoured with your letter of the 21st, inst. and am glad you have found the papers you mentioned as I am of opinion they will be of some importance, those papers properly authenticated I beg you may send by the first opportunity either private or by post, which may first offer, carefully inclosed under good cover and directed to me. Inclosed you have a list of the papers I procured at Connecticut, duplicates of which may be in your office, but as I am convinced of your inclination to serve Pennsylvania any papers you may send on the subject shall be thankfully acknowledged and paid for. As the trial comes on in a few Days I must request your sending such others as you may find from time to time by post to avoid delay & misscarriage, please present my best respects to His Excy. Govr. Clinton & Mr. Atty. Genl. and am Dr. Sir,*

* No date, direction, or name—probably from Mr. H. Osborne to T. Matlack.

No. 12—T. Matlack to Penns. Agents.

Gentlemen,

Inclosed are the two deeds which Mr. Osbourne ordered to be made out from the records. I suspect that he did obtain the Duke of York's release to Penn and have therefore directed a search to be made for it, and if it is found shall transmit it to you.

With great respect, I am Gent.

your most obdt. servt.

T. MATLACK Secy,

Agents of Pennsylvania &c.,

No. 13.—V. P. Potter to H. Osborne, 1782.

In Council,

Philada., November 4th, 1782.

Sir,

A Committee of the Assembly met with us this morning, and we have appointed four o'clock this afternoon to meet the Gentlemen Agents in this room to converse with them on the subject of the expenses attending the trial between this State, and that of Connecticut, of which appointment you will please to give them notice.

I am sir, your obedient

and very humble servant,

JAS. POTTER, Vice President.*

Directed,

Henry Osborne, Esqr, Present.

No .14.—Sec'y Matlack to H. Osborne, 1782.

In Council,

Philada., Novr. 6, 1782.

Ordered,

That the Agents of the State in the case of the Connecticut claims and the Solicitor be requested to attend in the Council Chamber on Friday next at 11 o'clock, for the purpose of a free conference on that subject—more especially respecting the state of the evidence collected thereupon.

Extract from the minutes,

T. MATLACK, Sec'y.

Mr. Osbourne will please to be so kind as to give notice to the Attorneys employed as Agents.

T. M.

Directed,

Henry Osbourne, Esqr, Solicitor, &c.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 366.

No. 15—Council to Agents in the Case of Connecticut, 1782.

In Council,
Philadelphia, Novr., 16, 1782.

Gentlemen:

In order to avoid inconveniencies to the witnesses which may be necessary on the trial under your care, and to prevent unnecessary expence to the State, it would be proper the Council should have the best information you can give respecting the time when the witnesses attendance will become necessary, which you will therefore please to give them in due time. The Honorable Mr. Van Campen, being now about to set out on a visit to his family, will give notice to Alexander Patterson and Jacobus Vanaken to attend at such time as you shall appoint.

The Council will thank you for information from time to time of the state of the trial, as events of any consequence turn up.

I am, with great respect,
your most obedient servant,
(By order)
T. MATLACK, Sec'y.

Directed,
Agents of Pennsylvania, &c., at Trenton.

No. 16—W. Bradford to Pres. Dickinson, 1872.

Novr. 20, 1782.

Sir,

I beg leave to inform your Excellency and the Council that the Court of Commissioners have at length proceeded to business. We, however, are still upon the threshold of the cause, and whether we shall proceed any further is still undetermined. The Agents for Connecticut seem determined to use every endeavour to prevent a decision of the Cause. First they demanded that the original petition which was presented to Congress, should be produced; an argument ensued, & they were overruled. Next they objected to the validity of our Agency, & contended that we had no authority to appear before *that* Court. After argument the Court held our powers to be sufficient. After this, They contended that the Court could not proceed unless the Tertenants or others claiming lands in the contested Territory, were summoned and made parties in the suit. This they warmly contended for, but were as unsuccessful as before.—At the next meeting of the Court we moved that the Court would proceed to hear the Cause. The Agents prayed time to have a conference with us, which they alledged might prevent any further

motions to delay the Cause. It was granted to them: and their proposal to us has been, that we will admit ex parte depositions and concede that there is in England a certain Indian deed of part of the Lands in question, fairly executed, made to the Susquehanna Company, & of which they have no copy. These proposals met with the answer that might have been expected, and in consequence of our refusal, they propose to move that the Cause shall not be heard till they can procure the witnesses & the deed. We trust that they will not be gratified in this unreasonable request: If they can prove such a deed to have existed & that it is in possession of the enemy, no doubt its contents may be given in Evidence.

The Spirit however which has been discovered on these occasions, induces us to wish for Evidence the most legal & unexceptionable. If the Charter & Indian deeds cannot be procured, we could wish that the records of them were brought forward. We are particularly anxious to have the deed of Pre-emption in 1736, the deed of 1749, & the last that was obtained in 1768. We also wish that Mr. Thomas Willing, who was a witness to the deed in 1754, when that of 1736 was recognized, would attend the Court as soon as possible.*

I have the honor to be

your Excellency's most obed. Serv.,

Wm BRADFORD, Jun.

Directed,

(On public Service.)

His Excell'y, John Dickinson Esqr., President of Pennsylvania.

No. 17—Joseph Reed to Pres. Moore, 1782.

Sir,

I have the Honour to inform your Excell^y & Council that I arrived this Evening from Trenton, & am sorry to inform you that the Proceedings of the Agents on the Part of Connecticut manifest the utmost Intentions to postpone the Hearing of the Cause & break up the Court without a Decision on the Merits. After objecting to our Powers, to the Non Production of the original Petition & Want of Notice to the Settlers, in all which, after long arguments, they were over-ruled—they prayed that the Cause might proceed, with a Reservation of moving an Adjournment of the Cause at any Stage of it, at the same Time adding, that they had left sundry Papers in England essential to the Merits, of which they gave a verbal Detail. The Motion took up two Days; & on Friday the Court gave an Opinion, that, tho', they would not expressly determine against receiving Motions for continuing the Cause, yet they should receive them under the Direction of the established Rules of Laws & Practices—We then began to open the Cause on the Part of Pennsylvania. But I must first observe, that on Friday Morning we exchanged States of our respective Claims,

* See Archives, Vol. I., pp. 494–499. Vol. II., pp. 33–38, 147–158; and Vol. IV., p. 309.

which were read & filed, Copies of which will be forwarded to your Excell^y & Council as soon as possible.—Among the Papers said to be in England, they lay great Stress on the Indian Deeds, which they alledge to have been left in that Kingdom. We have treated their Motion for Delay with so much freedom, that it would be an inexpressible Mortification to us to be obliged to ask a Delay; & we have stated our Indian Deeds so strongly as to make them a Part of our Title—fully presuming that, as they were in the State, & the Powers of obtaining them very ample, that no Difficulty would have occurr'd in obtaining them. As I shall set out early on Monday Morning, so as to be there by 10 o'Clock, it will be impracticable for me to pay my Respects personally to your Excell^y in Council; shall therefore only add, that we wish Mr Osborn may be despatched as soon as possible—& inclose a Memorandum given me by Mr Bradford atmy setting out, to which we also pray the favourable Attention of your Excell^y & Council.

I have the Honour to be,
with very great Respect,
Yours & the Council's
most Obed. & Hbble Serv.,
JOS. REED.*

2^d Street, Nov. 23, 1782.

Indorsed,
Read in Council Novr 25, 1782.

No. 18—Timothy Matlack, Sec'y, to Agents of Pennsylvania at Trenton, 1782.

Philadelphia, Novr 27, 1782.

Gentlemen:

His Excellency the President orders me to inform you, that Major General Lord Sterling is extremely ill, and it is feared cannot live thro' the winter. He recommends that his Lordship's testimony be taken at his own house, and that the Court be moved for their order for this purpose immediately.

The Council are possessed of a Copy of the "Journal of the Congress at Fort Stanwix, in the year 1768," certified to be "A true copy examined by G. Johnson, Deputy Agent, as Secretary, extracts from which I now enclose you. The Authenticity of this copy can be proved by Samuel Wharton, Esq., and if you find it necessary on the trial, you must send a citation for him; otherwise he will not attend. Mr. Wharton brought this Copy with him from England, and it was lodged in the hands of the Secretary of Congress.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 487.

I hope to send you by the next opportunity, an order of King Charles the second to all people settled within the bounds of Pennsylvania to submit to William Penn, &c.

I am &c.,

T. M., Sec'y.

Agents of Penns^a at Trenton.

No. 19—JOHN VAN CAMPEN TO COUNSEL OF PENNSYLVANIA AT TRENTON, 1782.

Lower Smithfield, Novr. 29, 1782.

Gentlemen:

Agreeable to promise I have been in Upper Smithfield, as also in the States of Jersey and New York, to obtain the best Information in Regard of the Time of the Purchase and actual settlement of the Upper Parts of this County above Walpeck Ferry.

I have spoken on the subject with the oldest Men now in being, both in Jersey and New York, but by Reason of their old Age and Infirmities, it is out of their Power to attend at Trenton. I hope the Bearer, James Vanaken, Esqr., will fully and distinctly prove the actual settlement of the Land on Delaware within the pretended Claim of Connecticut.

I have the Honor to be,
with the greatest respect,
Gentlemen, Your most obedient
and most humble servant,
JOHN VAN CAMPEN.

Messr^s Bradford,
Reed,
Wilson &
Sergeant.

Directed,

Henry Osborn, Esqr., or in his Absence, to William Bradford, Esqr., Trentown.

No. 20—SECY. MATLACK TO AGENTS OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1782.

Philada. Novr. 30, 1782.

Gent,

I send you enclosed, (by Mr. Wallis) copy of Charles 2nd's order to the people of Penna. And his Excellency the Prest. desires me to remind you that several deeds relative to Dungans purchase are endorsed by Mr. Penns own hand, which Mr. Chew & others can

prove, and especially to note the endorsement which declares that the purchase made by Dungan was for Mr. Penn.

After diligent search no other release from the Duke of York can be found than what relates to New Castle and the islands in Delaware &c. It is probable the record of his release of Penna. has been entered in New York, part of the records of that State are at Esopus & part in New York city, to the former Mr. Osbourne may have recourse.

I am your most obt. Servt.

T. MATLACK Secy.

Agents of Pennsa.

No. 21—Commission to Examine Lord Stirling, 1782.

The United States, in Congress assembled, To the Honble Robert Yeats Esquire, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Peter W. Yeats Esquire, General Robert Van Rensselaer and Walter Livingston, Esquires, (all of the State of New York) Greeting, Know ye that we, in Confidence of your prudence and fidelity, have appointed you, and by these presents do give unto you, [or any two or more of you] full power and authority diligently to examine The right honourable William, Earl of Stirling, a Major General in our armies, upon certain interrogatories to be exhibited to you as well on the part of the State of Pennsylvania complainant, as on the part of the State of Connecticut Defendant, or either of them, and therefore we command you [or any two or more of you] that at certain days and places to be appointed by you for that purpose, you do cause the said Earl of Stirling to come before you, and then and there examine him the sd Earl of Stirling upon the said interrogatories, on his corporal oaths first taken before you [or any two or more of you] upon the Holy Evangelists, and that you do take such, his examination and reduce it into writing; and when you shall have so taken it, your are to send the same to us in our Court of Commissioners and Judges appointed by virtue of the Ninth Article of the Confederation of ye United States to hear & finally determine the Controversy subsisting between the sd Commonwealth of Pennsa. & the sd State of Connecticut wheresoever it shall then be closed up and under your Seals, or the Seals of [any two or more of you] distinctly and plainly set, together with the said interrogatories and this Writ. Witness the Honble William Whipple Esquire, President of our said Court at Trenton in the State of New Jersey, the third Day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty two and of our Independence the seventh.

Directed,

To the Honble. Robt. Yates Esqr., Peter Yates Esqr., Genl. Robt.

V. Rensselaer, and Walter Livingston Esquires a Commission impowering you to examine Witnesses as well on the part of the State of Pennsylvania Comiss. as on the part of the State of Connecticut Deft. or either of them returnable without Delay.

The execution of this Commission appears in a certain schedule to the same annexed.

By order of the Court.

—

No. 22—Wm. Bradford Jr., to Pres. Dickinson, 1782.

Trenton Decr. 12, 1782.

Sir,

No important circumstances have happened in the progress of the Trial of the Cause, since I had the honor of stating to your Excellency the situation of it. We have at length a prospect of a speedy & a favourable determination. Mr. Root on the part of Connecticut has finished his observations on the Testimony. Mr. Sergeant, on the Part of Pennsy. will conclude to Day & Col. Dyer begin. We are directed by the Court to speak alternately. The Cause of Pennsa. stands in the fairest & most honourable point of view.

I was not able to procure the small sum for which your Excellency & the Council gave me an order, & at this time it would be too little to discharge the sums due to the Commissioners, the Secretary & door keeper. We flatter ourselves that we will not be under the disagreeable necessity of apologizing to the Gentlemen on this subject or of seeing Connecticut more ready than ourselves. One of the agents of Pennsa. will be in Town at the close of this week for the purpose of attending to this business.

I have the honor to be,
your Excellency's most obdt. & very hum. Servt.
WM. BRADFORD Jun.,

Directed,
His Excellency John Dickinson, Esq., President &c., of Pennsylvania.

—

No. 23—Wm. Bradford, Jr., 1782.

Trenton, Decr 25th, 1782.

Sir,

I have the honor of informing your Excellency and the Council that Mr. Root closed the Argument last Evening, and that the Cause is now wholly in the hands of the Commissioners. They propose to examine the Exhibits offered on both sides, but we flatter ourselves that this will not detain them long, and that the decree will be given before the close of the Week.

I have paid 700 Dollars (part of the 800 I received when last in

Town) to the Commissioners, The Secretary & Door keeper, & the Expences accruing from fire wood, &c., yet unpaid. The sum therefore that your Excellency was pleased to mention will be absolutely necessary; and if the state of the treasury will suffer a further draft, my Colleagues have given it in charge to me, to mention that their situation will render it very acceptable.

I have the honor to be
your Excellency's
most obedient servt,
Wm BRADFORD, Jun.

Directed,—His Excell'y, John Dickinson, Esqr., President.

No. 24—Court of Commissioners, 1782.

Inter Pennsylvania & Connecticut. Proceedings of a Court of Commissioners, at Trenton, in New Jersey, November 12th, 1782.

At a Court of Commissioners holden at Trenton, in the State of New Jersey, on the 12th day of Novr., 1782, agreeably to the Ninth Article of the Confederation & by Virtue and in pursuance of the Commns and letters patent of the United States in Congress assembled, given under their Seal and dated the 28th Day of Augt in the year aft, constituting and impowering the persons therein named to hear and finally determine a Controversy subsisting between the States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, relative to their respective rights & Claims to certain Disputed lands.

No. 25—Proceedings, &c.

Tuesday, 12th Novr., 1782.

Present.

The Honbl David Brearley, Wm. C. Huston. } Esq'rs.

Commission read, and the Judges present sworn by Judge Smith, which was indorsed on the Commission and Adjourned from Day to Day till

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Monday, 18th Novr, 1782.

The Court met.

Present.

The Honbl Wm. Whipple, Welcome Arnold, Davd Brearley, Wm. C. Huston, Cyrus Griffin. } Esqr's.

Who being Sworn, the Honl Wm Whipple, Esqr., was by Ballot elected President of the Court. John Neilson, Esqr., was appointed Clerk, and Sworn. [Commission inserted at length.]

19th Nov'r.

Proclamation for all persons concerned to attend and be heard.

No. 1. The Agents of Pennsylvania produced their Credentials. [To be inserted at length.]

No. 2. The Agents of Connecticut produced their Credentials. [To be Do.]

A motion was made by the Agents of Conn^t that the petition prepared by the Executive Council of Penn^a to Congress, praying that a Court might be appointed for deciding the Controversy subsisting between the two States, or an authentic copy thereof should be produced and read. Which after Argument was overruled by the Court.

A motion in writing was then offered by the Agents of Connecticut, in the words following, viz:

State of New Jersey, ss. Trenton, Nov'r 19th, 1782.

Motion No. 3. At a Court of Commissioners for the Trial of the Cause between the States of Connecticut & Pennsylvania relative to the Jurisdiction and property in certain lands lying west of Delaware river within the chartered boundaries of said States.

The Agents for the State of Connecticut saving to themselves all advantages of other & further defence in s^d Cause, beg leave to suggest, inform, and give the Court to understand that there are many persons who are Tenants in possession of the lands in controversy, holding, improving, and claiming large quantities of said Lands under titles from the States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut respectively, particularly the two large Companies of Delaware & Susquehanna, consisting of more than two thousand persons, many of whose people are in possession, improving and holding large tracks of s^d lands in Controversy under title from the State of Connecticut, whose titles under said States respectively will be materially affected by the decision in this Case, yet have not been cited or any way legally notified to be present at said Trial to defend their titles respectively, which by the rules of proceeding in a Course of Justice ought to be done before any further proceedings are had in said Case, And thereupon said Agents move this Hb^le Court to cause said Companies of Delaware & Susquehannah and other Tenants in possession holding under title from either of said States, to be duly cited in some proper & reasonable manner, to appear and defend at said Trial if they see cause before any further proceedings are had in said cause, & of this they pray the Opinion of this Hon'ble Court. (Signed.)

E. DYER.
Wm S. JOHNSON, } Agents for Conn^t.
J. ROOT.

[After argument.]

No. 26—Opinion of the Court.

Nov'r 20th.

The Court gave their opinion on the motion No. 3, made yesterday by the Agents of Connecticut—

That the same cannot be admitted according to the construction of the Ninth Article of the Confederation, and the Tenor and design of the Commission under which they act.

A motion was made by the Agents for the State of Pennsylvania, in the words following, viz:

—

Novr. 20th, 1782.

Motion No. 4. The Agents of Pennsylvania apprehending that the Agents of Connecticut design to move the Court to postpone or put off the Determination of the Cause now depending before them, do give notice to the said Agents for Connecticut, in the presence of the Court that they, the said Agents of Pennsylvania will oppose any motions of that nature being made after the Evidence on the part of Penns^a has been opened, or the merits of the Cause entered upon; and if the Agents for Connecticut propose to make any such motion the Agents for Pennsylvania do express their willingness that time be given them for that purpose.

(Signed)
Wm. Bradford, Jr
Jos. Reed,
Jas. Wilson,
Jon. D. Sergeant.

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Tuesday, 21st Nov'r, 1782.

A motion was made by the Agents of Connecticut in these words, viz.

—

No. 27.

21st Nov'r, 1782.

Pennsylvania, v. Connecticut. } Trenton, New Jersey, Court of Commissioners.

Motion No. 5. And now the agents of the State of Connecticut, unwilling to give any unnecesary Delay, but considering the magnitude of this Cause, its length and intricacy and the high importance that it should be thoroughly investigated and not only Justly determined but in a manner satisfactorily to the parties

concerned, and the State of Pennsylvania not having yet filed any Declaration or state of their Claim in this Court whereby the Agents for Connecticut can know what the Demands of Penns^a are or what they have to answer to, and knowing that there are many exhibits and proof which will be essentialy necessary in the Course of said Cause which we have not, nor hath it been in our power to procure, (viz,) a certain original Deed from the Indians of a large Parcel of the Lands in Dispute obtained from their Chiefs & Sachems at their Council Fire in Onondago, in A. D. 1763, which is now in England, left there before the Commencement of the present unhappy War—and which we have never since been able to obtain, and other necessary Evidence and proofs which on Examination we find we are not at present possest of, which may be wanted in the said Trial and not yet knowing what Concession may be made on the part of Pennsylvania Do consent to proceed in the Trial of said Cause, at the same time reserving to ourselves the right of moving in any stage of said Trial to have the same postponed as the Nature & Exigencies of the Case may require, and that the Agents for Pennsylvania have on their part the same advantages and that this Motion be made parcel of the files of this Hon'ble Court.

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No. 28.

E. Dyer,
W. S. Johnson,
J. Root.
} Agents for Connecticut.

Whereupon the Agents for Pennsylvania moved as follows, Viz.:

Motion No. 6. The Agents of Pennsylvania in answer to the written Motion presented by the Agents of Connecticut, do say that they are now ready and have been for some time to exhibit their Claim on the part of Pennsylvania, but have been delayed by the Expectation founded on the promise made in the presence of the Court by the Agents of Connecticut to file their Claim at the same time, yet they say, in answer to that part of the said motion which claims the right of Moving in any stage of the Trial to have the same postponed, that the Court ought not to hear and admit any Motion to postpone the Trial after the same has begun and proceeded to a Hearing of the Merits of the Cause; and of this they pray the Opinion of the Court.

21st Nov., 1782.

Signed,

Wm. Bradford, Jr.,
Jos. Reed,
Jas. Wilson,
Jona. D. Sergeant.

After Argument the Court Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'Clock, A. M.

22d Nov.

The Court Ordered the Motions now before them in writing to be filed.

The Agents for Pennsylvania laid before the Court the following state and representation, Viz. :

No. 29—[Claim of Pennsylvania]

To the Hon'ble, the Commissioners and Judges appointed to hear and finally determine the controversy subsisting between the State of Pennsylvania and the State of Connecticut.*

The Agents of the State of Pennsylvania beg Leave humbly to State and represent in behalf of said State.

I. That King Charles the Second, then King of Great Britian, on the fourth Day of March, in the Year of our Lord One thousand six hundred & Eighty-one, by his Letters patent, dated on the same day and Year aforesaid, did Grant to William Penn, the first proprietary & Governor of Pennsylvania, his Heirs & Assigns, "all "that Tract or part of Land in America, with the Islands therein "contained, as the same is bounded on the East by Delaware River "from twelve Miles Distance Northwards of New Castle Town, unto "the three and fortieth Degree of Northern Latitude, if the said "River doth extend so far Northward; but if the said River shall "not extend so far Northward, then by the said River so far as it "doth extend; and from the Head of the said River the Eastern "Bounds are to be determined by a Meridian Line, to be drawn "from the Head of the said River unto the said forty-third Degree, "the said Land to extend Westward five Degrees in Longitude, to "be computed from the s^d Eastern Bounds, and the said Lands to "be bounded on the North by the Beginning of the three & fortieth "Degree of Northern Latitude, and on the South by a Circle drawn "at twelve Miles Distance from New Castle, Northward, and "Westward unto the Beginning of the fortieth Degree of Northern "Latitude, And then by a straight line Westwards to the limits of "Longitude above mentioned;" by which letters Patent, the Jurisdiction and right of Government, within the limits af^d, and also the right of Soil were conveyed, and under which Pennsylvania hath been held, settled and possessed.

II. That the said William Penn and the succeeding proprietaries of Pennsylvania, at different periods purchased from the Native Indians their Right of Soil within different Districts of the Limits af^d, and received Deeds from them for the same; and particularly, on the twenty-fifth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and thirty-six, the said Indians conveyed to Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, the then proprietaries of Pennsylvania, the full and absolute Right of preemption of & in all the

* The rough draft of this is in the hand-writing of Wm. Bradford, Jr., Att'y Gen.

lands not before sold by them, to the s^d proprietaries within the Limits af^d.

III. That the Southern Bounds of Pennsylvania, so far as the same adjoins on Maryland, have been long since settled, and the same, so far as the State adjoins upon Virginia, have been also settled of late by a Line called Mason's and Dixon's Line, continued to the end of five Degrees of Longitude, from the River Delaware; that the Northern bounds have always been deemed to extend to the end of the forty-second Degree, where the figures 42° are marked on the map; the River Delaware being found to extend so far North & farther; that the said River, pursuing the East or main Branch thereof, above the Forks at Easton, hath been ever deemed to be one Boundary of Pennsylvania from twelve Miles above New Castle, on the s^d River, to the s^d end of the forty-second Degree; and that a straight Line from thence to the place where the same shall intersect another straight Line, drawn from the End of the s^d Southern Line of Boundary of Pennsylvania, commonly called Mason & Dixon's Line, continued to the extent of five Degrees of Longitude from the River Delaware, is another Boundary of the s^d State of Pennsylvania.

IV. That the Late province of Pennsylvania, on the fourth Day of July, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, did join with the other twelve, late provinces, now States, in the Declaration of Independence, and soon after established a Constitution and Government, founded on the authority of the people, which they continue still to exercise and enjoy; that they did also join in the Articles of Confederation of the United States, and that being so independent and Sovereign, on the twenty-fourth Day of November, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, they did, by an Act of their Legislature, consisting of the Representatives of the Freemen of the s^d Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, duly made and passed according to the Directions of their Frame of Government, vest the Right of Soil and Estate of the Late proprietaries of Pennsylvania in the s^d Commonwealth, and that by means thereof, and of the several Matters and things herein before set forth, the said Commonwealth or State of Pennsylvania is entitled to the right of jurisdiction and right of Soil within all the Limits af^d.

V. That nevertheless sundry persons pretending to Claim under the late Colony now State of Connecticut, before the revolution, have violently settled themselves within the Limits afd. & the Colony of Connecticut by an act of their Legislature made and passed a short time before the revolution have encouraged the sd. violent settlement & Intrusion & asserted their Claim as a Colony to a large part of the Lands within the Limits afd. as well in point of Jurisdiction as Territory; and that since the revolution the sd Intrusions are continued and daily increased by the said persons pretending to claim under the State of Connecticut and the Claim

of the sd. State is by the sd. State still continued and persisted in, and the Jurisdiction of the sd. State actually asserted, & exercised within a part of the State of Pennsylvania in Defiance of all Law and Justice.

Wherefore the said agents do humbly pray that this Honble. Court, taking into Consideration the premises, as well as all other Matters and proofs that may be alledged and shewn on the part of Pennsylvania & of Connecticut before you, You will proceed agreeably to the Tenor of the Ninth article of the Confederation, to determine & decide in the premises according as to right and Justice shall be found to appertain.

20th Novr. 1782.

(Signed,) WM. BRADFORD Jr.,
JOS. REED,
JAMES WILSON,
JONA. D. SERGEANT.

The agents of Connecticut laid before the Court the following state and representation viz.:

No. 30—[Claim or Connecticut case stated]

The state of the Case on the part of Connecticut Exhibited to the Honble. Court of Commissioners at Trenton, Novr. A. D. 1782.

A. D. 1497, Sebastian Cabot a subject of England was employed by Henry the seventh King of England, to discover a North West passage to China; and in that service, on or about the year One thousand four hundred and Ninety seven, he discovered all the North east Coast of America, from Cape Florida in twenty-five degrees North Latitude, to sixty seven Degrees & a half, by which the Crown of England became intitled thereto, so far as the Right of first Discovery could intitle.

A. D. 1620, King James the first, in eighteenth year of his Reign, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of England, gave the Name of "New England in America" to all that Circuit, Continent and Limits in America in Breadth from forty degrees of Northerly "Latitude from the Equinoctial Line, to forty-eight "Degrees of said Northerly Latitude, and in length by all the breadth "throughout the main land from sea to sea with all the rivers, Seas "&c., within the same Degrees of Latitude and Longitude."

And incorporated the Duke of Lenox, and divers other persons by the Name of "The Council established at Plymouth in the County of Devon, for the Planting, ruling, ordering and Governing of New England in America" and to them and their Successors grants all the lands, &c., Viz. That aforesaid part of America lying and being in breadth from forty Degrees of Northerly Latitude from the Equinoctial Line, to forty-eight Degrees of the said northerly Latitude inclusively and in Length of and within all the Breadth aforesaid throughout the Main Lands from Sea to Sea, together also with

all the firm Lands, Soils, Grounds, &c., and all and singular, other Commodities, Jurisdictions, Royalties, Privileges, Franchises and Preheminences both within the said Tract upon the Land, upon the Main and also within the said Islands and seas adjoining.—Provided always, that the said Islands, or any of the Premises herein before mentioned, & by these presents intended and meant to be granted, be not actually possessed or inhabited by any other Christian Prince or State or be within the Bounds, Limits or Territories of that southern Colony heretofore by us granted to be planted by divers of our loving Subjects in the South Part.

March 19th, 1628. And did further command & authorise the said Council and their Successors, or the major part of them, to distribute, convey, assign and set over such particular portions of said Lands, Tenements and Heriditaments to such Subjects, Adventurers and planters, as they should think proper, respect being had as well to the proportion of the adventurers as to the special Hazard, Export or Merit of any person to be recompenced, advanced or rewarded. The said Council of Plymouth granted to Sir Henry Roswell, &c., their Heirs and Assig'ns and their Associates forever, all that part of New England in America aforesaid which lies and extends between a great river there commonly called Monomacke, alias Merrimacke, and a certain other River, there call'd Charles-River, being in the bottom of a Bay called Massachusetts, alias Mattachusets, alias Mattatusets Bay; and all & singular those Lands & Heriditaments whatsoever lying within the space of three English miles on the South part of the said Charles-River, or of any or every part thereof; and also all and singular the Lands & Heriditaments whatsoever lying and being within the Space of three English Miles to the Southward of the Southermost part of the said Bay called Massachusets, alias Mattachusets, alias Mattatusets; and also all those Lands and Heriditaments whatsoever which lie and be within the Space of three English Miles to the Northward of the said River called Monomacke, alias Merrimacke, or to the Northward of any and every part thereof, and all Lands & Heriditaments whatsoever, lying within the limits aforesaid, North and south in Latitude and in Breadth; and in Length and Longitude of and within all the breadth aforesaid, throughout the main Lands there, from the Atlantic and western Sea and Ocean on the East part, to the South Sea on the West part, and all the Lands and Grounds, &c.

March 4th, 1629. King Charles the first, by his letters Patent, under the Great Seal of England, did grant and Confirm unto the said Sr Henry Roswell, &c., their Heirs and assigns and their Associates, all the said part of New England in America lying and Extending between the bounds and Limits in the said Indenture expressed &c.—Provided always, that if the said Lands, Islands, or any of the premisses before mentioned, and by the said letters pattent last mentioned, intended and meant to be granted, were, at the time of the Granting of the said former letters pattent, dated the third

Day of November, in the Eighteenth year of the Reign of His Late Majesty, King James the first, actually possessed or inhabited by any other Christian prince or State, or were within the Bounds, Limits or teritories of the said Southern Colony then before granted by the said King to be planted by divers of his loving Subjects in the South parts of America, that then the said Grant should not Extend to any such parts or parcels thereof so formerly inhabited or lying within the bounds of the Southern Plantation as aforesaid; But as to those parts or parcels so possessed or inhabited by any such Christian Prince or State, or being within the Boundaries aforesaid, should be utterly Void.

March 19th, 1631. Robert Earl of Warwick, President of the Council of Plymouth, by his Deed, bearing date the 19th Day of March, A. D., 1631, Did give, grant, bargain, sell & confirm unto the Right Honble William Viscount, Say and Seal, &c., their Heirs and Assigns, and their Associates forever, all that part of New England, in America, which lies and Extends itself from a River, there called Naragansett River, the space of forty Leagues, upon a straight Line, near the Sea shore, towards the South west, West and by South or West, as the coast Lieth towards Virginia, accounting three English Miles to the League, and also all and singular the Lands and Hereditaments whatsoever, lying and being within the Lands aforesaid, North and South, in Latitude and breadth, and in Length and Longitude of and within all the Breadth aforesaid, throughout the main Lands, there from the Western Ocean to the South Sea, and all Lands and Grounds, Havens, Rivers, Waters, fishings and Hereditaments whatsoever, Lying within the said space, and every part and parcel thereof, and also all the Islands lying in America aforesaid, in the said Seas or either of them, on the Western or Eastern Coasts, or parts of the said Tracts of Land by these presents mentioned to be given and Granted. To Have & to Hold unto the said Wm. Viscount, Say and Seal, &c., their Heirs & Assigns, and their Associates to their proper use and behoof forever more.

The Connecticut people soon after established Government, and proceeded to Settle on the Lands aforesaid, upon the Right and as Associates of the Lords Say and Seal, &c., under the patents aforesaid, which Land they Were afterwards vested with, Having obtained the Native Right by purchase and Conquest, and having settled many Towns in the Eastern part of said patent, and as far West as the Dutch possessions near Hudson's River; they, as early as A. D., 1650, extended their Claims and possessions on the West side of Delaware River, and made purchases of large Tracts of Lands of the Indians there.

In 1635 the said Plymouth Company surrendered their patent to the Crown.

April 23d, 1662. King Charles the Second, by his Letters patent, under the Great Seal of England, bearing Date the 23d Day

of April, A. D., 1662, ordained, Constituted and Declared John Winthrop, John Mason, Sam. Willys and Sixteen others by Name, and all such others as then were or thereafter should be admitted, and made free of the Company and Society of the Colony of Connecticut, in America, should from time to time and forever thereafter, be one Body Corporate and Politicke, in fact and in Name, by the Name of the Governor and Company of the English Colony of Connecticut, in New England, in America, with certain powers, Privileges and Authorities, and therein granted to them and their Successors, all that part of his Dominions in New England in America, bounden on the East by Narragansit River, commonly Narragansit Bay, where the said River falleth into the Sea, and on the North by the Line of the Massachusetts Plantation, and on the South by the Sea, and in Longitude as the Line of the Massachusetts Colony, running from East to West, that is to say, from the said Narragansit Bay on the East to the South Sea on the West, with the Islands thereunto adjoining, together with all the firm lands, &c. To Have and to hold the same unto the said Governor and Company, their Heirs, Successors and Assigns forever, upon Trust, and to and for the Use and benefit of themselves and their Associates, freemen of the said Colony, their Heirs and Assigns to be holden of the King, his Heirs & Successors, as of his Manor of East Greenwich, in free and Common Soccage, and not in Capite or by Knight's service.

Whereby the said Governor and Company became vested with the right of Jurisdiction over and seized of the Crown Title and of the exclusive right of pre-emption to all the Lands within the boundaries in said Patent mentioned and described, excepting only such part of the same as was then actually in the possession of the Dutch. And in fact the lands in Controversy between the States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut in this case are contained within the said limits of said Patent, Viz., *Within a line drawn from the East side of a Creek or river called Momaronech, where the Fresh Water falls into the Salt at high Water mark, West parallel to the south line of the patents to the Massachusets aforesaid.*

March 12th, 1664.—King Charles the second, by his letters patent under the Great Seal of England, bearing date the 12th Day of March, A. D. 1664, gave and granted unto his Royal Brother James, Duke of York, all that part of the main land in New England beginning at a certain place called and known by the Name of Saint Croise, next adjoining to New Scotland, in America, and from thence extending along the Sea Coast unto a place called Pemaquil or Penaquid, and so up the river thereof to the furthermost Head of the same as it tendeth Northward, and extending from thence to the River Kenebequic, and upwards by the shortest course to the River called Canada, Northward, and also all that Island or Islands commonly called by the several name or names of Mattawachus or Long Island, situate, lying, and being towards the west of Cape Cod and the Narragansitts, abutting upon the main

land between the two rivers there called and known by the Names of Connecticut and Hudson's River, together also with the said river called Hudson's River, and all the land from the West side of Connecticut river to the East side of Delaware bay; and all the several Islands called or known by the Names of Martha's Vineyard and Nantuckes, otherwise Nantucket; together with all the lands, Soils, Islands, &c.

The Dutch and Swedes were at that time possessed of the Lands belonging to the late Colonies of New York and New Jersey, and had made considerable plantations and Improvements there.—Which settlements aforesaid of the Dutch, &c., they contended were begun as early as in the year 1614, prior to the patent of the Council of Plymouth.

April, 1664.—King Charles the second, in April, 1664, made a Conquest of the Dutch at New York, and a Settlement of the line between the Duke of York's Governm^t Eastward, and the Colony of Connecticut became necessary.

April 26th, 1664.—His Majesty having constituted and appointed Col. Rich^d. Nicholas, Sir Robert Carr, Knight, &c., his Commissioners to visit the New England Colonies with full power and authority to hear, receive, examine and Determine all Complaints and Appeals, and proceed in all things for providing for and settling the peace of said Country; they did accordingly settle and determine as follows, (Viz.) By virtue of his Majesty's Commission, We have heard the Difference about the Bounds of the patent granted to his Royal Highness the Duke of York and to his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut; and having deliberately considered the reasons alleged by Mr. Allen, Senr, Mr. Gould, Mr. Richards, and Captain Winthrop, appointed by the Assembly held at Hartford, the 13th of October, 1664, to accompany John Winthrop, Esqr., the Governor of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut, to New York, and by Mr. Howell and Capt. Young why the said Long Island should be under the Governm^t of Connecticut, which are too long here to be recited. We do declare and Order the Southern Bounds of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut is the Sea, and that Long Island is to be under the Government of his Royal Highness, the Duke of York, as is expressed by plain words in said Charters respectively. And also by Virtue of his Majesty's Commission and by the consent of both the Governors and the Gentlemen above named, we do also order and Declare that the Creek or River which is called Monoromache, which is reputed to be about twelve miles to the East of West Chester and a line drawn from the East point or side where the fresh Water falls into the Salt at High-Water mark, North, North-west to the line of the Massachusets, be the Western bounds of the said Colony of Connecticut. And all plantations lying Westward of that Creek and line so drawn, shall be under his Royal Highness's Government; and all the plantations lying Eastward of that Creek and line to be under the Government of Connecticut.

To this the Commissioners therein mentioned from Connecticut, sub-

scribed in the words following, (Viz. :) "We, underwritten, on be-
"half of the Colony of Connecticut, have assented unto the Deter-
"mination of his Majesty's Commissioners in relation to the bounds
"and limits of his Royal Highness the Duke's Patent and the
"patent of Connecticut."

June, 1673. In June, 1673, New York and its territories were recovered by the Dutch, and their Government revived again. In 1674, on a treaty of peace between the English and Dutch, signed at Westminster, the English Government was restored.—June 29th, A. D. 1674, the Duke of York obtained a renewal of his Patent. The Duke's Governor being uneasy at the former settlm^t of the line, claimed a resettlement of the same; and after various negociations and agreements between Novr. 23, 1683, and 1733, the line between the Duke's Government and the Government of the Colony of Connecticut was finally settled, begining at Biram river at the Sea, a few Miles East of the former settlement of said line, and to extend northward to the line of the Massachusetts, as in said settlement is expressed.

King Charles the second, by his letters patent, bearing date the thirty-first year of his Reign, gave and granted unto Wm Penn, his Heirs & Assigns, all that Tract or Parcel of land in America, with all the Islands therein contained, as the same is bounded on the East of Delaware River from twelve miles Northward of New Castle Town, unto the three and fortieth Degree of Northern Latitude, if the said river doth extend so far Northwards then by the said river, so far as it doth extend and from the head of the said river, the Eastern bounds are to be determined by a Meredian line to be drawn from the head of the said river unto the said three and fortieth degree—The said lands to extend westward five Degrees in longitude, to be computed from the said Eastern bounds;—And the said lands to be bounded on the North by the beginning of the three and fortieth Degree of Northern latitude, and on the South, by a Circle drawn at twelve miles distance from New Castle, Northwards, and westwards unto the beginning of the fortieth Degree of Northern latitude, and then by a straight line Westward to the limits of longitude above mentioned. To Have, hold, possess and enjoy unto the said William Penn, his Heirs & Assigns, &c.

The Northern part of the Bounds and limits of which grant, interferes with, and spreads over, some parts of the Western Lands before granted to the Colony of Connecticut, and confirmed by the renewed Charter or Patent afors^d from King Charles the second, for about the space of one degree of Latitude through the whole breadth of said Grant, being nearly the 42^d degree of North latitude, which occasions the present Controversy. Of which inference the said Wm Penn had notice at the time of taking out his Patent afors^d.

The Colony of Connecticut in A. D. 1753, having located all their lands within their patent East of New York, and being in a Condition to extend their settlements on the other part of their patent aforesaid to the Westward of Delaware River, which lay in a Wilderness

state and possessed only by the Indians, certain companies of adventurers, chiefly from said Colony, agreed together to purchase the native right to said lands of the Indians, & to extend the settlements of the Colony of Connecticut on the Western parts of said patent, and accordingly did, under countenance of the Authority of said Colony, at different times, make sundry purchases of large tracts of the Indians, native Proprietors of s^d Lands, on the Susquehannah and Delaware rivers, within the limits and bounds of the patent to the Governor and Company aforesaid; and in A. D. 1754, said Companies of Adventurers proceeded and made settlements on said lands so purchased as aforesaid, and ever since have, tho' with various interruptions, continued to hold and possess the same, under the title of the Colony of Connecticut. And the Legislature of the Colony of Connecticut have approved of the purchases and Settlements of the Adventurers aforesaid, and have actually erected and exercised Jurisdiction in and over s^d Territory as part and parcel of said Colony.

All which Rights, Powers, priviledges and Jurisdictions aforesaid of the Colony of Connecticut, on the late happy Revolution, remained as before, Vested in the State of Connecticut.

And thereupon, the Agents of the State of Connecticut pray the Judgment of this Hon'ble Court in their favour, that they may be quieted in the Jurisdiction and property in and over the lands in Dispute aforesaid.

ELIPHT. DYER,
Wm S. JOHNSON,
J. ROOT.
} Agents for Connecticut.

Indorsed—1782, Nov. 12. Proceedings of a Court of Commissioners at Trenton on the dispute between Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

No 31.

The Agents for the State of Pennsa. having further prayed the Opinion of the Court on the written motions, this morning ordered to be filed, the same was given as follows.

The Court cannot determine what motions may or may not be proper to be made hereafter, at the same time they think proper to inform the Agents on both sides that they mean to govern themselves by the principles of Law so far as they ought to apply in the present Case. 23d, Novr. 1782.

Motion No. 9, A Motion was made by the Agent for the State of Connecticut in the following words Viz.

Trenton, Novr. 23d, 1782.

Pennsylvania
v.
Connecticut

The Agents for the State of Connecticut sensible that in the

Course of this Trial they will have occasion to make use of many Depositions taken before a Justice of the Peace according to the Laws of the State in which they were taken respecting the purchase of the Indians Sachems, native proprieters of said Lands, their Deeds and the Execution of them, the Settlements that have been made on sd. Lands and sundry other matters which will be necessary in sd. Trial, beg leave now to move for the opinion of the Court whether such Depositions taken as aforesaid will be admitted as Evidence in the Case.

(Signed) DYER, JOHNSON, ROOT. } Agents.

Which being followed by a motion from the Agents for Pennsylvania in these words, Viz.

Novr. 23d, 1782.

Motion No 10, The Agents for Pennsylvania in reply to the written motion just filed by the Agents of Connecticut praying the opinion of the Court respecting the admissibility of Testimony, before the Court proceeds upon a hearing of the Cause, and before the Testimony be regularly offered, humbly beg leave to object to the same motion as irregular and unprecedented, and such as the Court ought not to decide upon, and of this they pray the opinion of the Court.

(Signed,) WM. BRADFORD,
JAS. WILSON,
JONA. D. SERGEANT.

The Court Determined that they can give no opinion upon the admission of Testimony untill regularly offered.

The Agents for Pennsa. gave the following notice in writing Viz.

Pennsylvania v. Connecticut.

Notice No. 11, The Agents for Pennsylvania anxious for the speedy determination of this Cause, and desirous that the Agents for Connecticut may have no reason to complain of hardship or Surprize, do hereby, in the presence of the Court, give notice to the said Agents for Connecticut that they shall conceive it their duty to oppose the admission of any exparte depositions; as Evidence in this Cause, and that they shall object to any application for a Commission to take the Examination of Witnesses, and to any motion for delaying this Cause on the account of the absence of Witnesses unless such motion or application be forthwith made, so as to avoid unnecessary delay.

(Signed,) WM. BRADFORD, Jr.,
JAS. WILSON,
JONA. D. SERGEANT.

23d, Novr. 1782.

Monday 25th, Novr. 1782.

Pennsylvania
v.
Connecticut

Answer No. 12, Now the Agents for Connecticut in answer to the Notice given them by the agents for Pennsylva. on the 23d instant. Say, that they being desirous of a Just as well as a speedy decision of this Cause, and that they relying on the Wisdom, Equity and Justice of this Honble. Court that all questions and motions which shall come before them will be righteously Determined are ready to proceed,—and that the agents for Pennsylvania may not suffer any disadvantage by first disclosing there Exhibits & Evidence, the agents of Connecticut are willing and now offer to go forward in their Exhibits & Prooff.

E. Dyer,
Jesse Root,
W. Saml. Johnson. } Agents.

Nov. 25th, 1782.

Ordered, that the Agents for the State of Pennsylvania proceed with their proofs and exhibits—Mr. Bradford proceeded.

—

26th, Nov.

Mr. Bradford on the part of Pennsylvania continued the proofs and Exhibits.

—

27th, Novr.

Mr Bradford continued, & closed the opening of the Cause on the part of Pennsa.

—

29th, Novr.

Mr. Dyer on the part of Connecticut proceeds to open the Cause and produce the proofs and Exhibits in behalf of that State.

—

Saturday, 30th Novr. 1782.

Mr. Dyer Continued his proofs and exhibits.

Monday, 2nd Decr. 1782.

A motion was made by the agents of Pennsylvania for a Commission to take the examination of Lord Sterling at Albany which was granted and directed to.

Mr. Dyer continues his proofs and Exhibits on the part of the State of Connecticut.

Indorsed,

Nov. 12, 1782. Proceedings of a Court of Commissioner at Trenton on the dispute between Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

No. 32—Positions by the Agents of Connecticut, 1782.

A. D. 1494 & 6. 1st. By the discovery of the Cabots the Crown of England was vested with a right of Colonising from 25° to 68° of Northern Latitude in America & with the right, property and preemption to all the Lands, from Sea to Sea in all that breadth throughout the main land, &c.

[Princes Introduction, pg. 94–7.]

A. D. 1606. 2nd. In 1606, King James the 1st divided the Country afors^d^ into two Colonies called South and North Virginia.

[Prince part 1st, pg. 17.]

A. D. 1620. 3d. In 1620, King James the 1st granted to the Council of Plymouth all the afors^d^ Colony of North Virginia from the 40° to the 48° of North Latitude inclusive in Longitude from the Atlantic on the East to the South Sea on the West, in the whole breadth throughout the main Land, and gave it the name of New England, excepting only such parts as were actually in the possession of some other Christian prince with power of granting planting & settling &c.,

[Plymouth patent.]

1628 & 1629. 4th. Many subordinate grants were made by s^d^ Council of Plymouth of different parts of said Teritories, particularly to Sir Henry Roswell &c., proprie's of the province of the Massachusits Bay, in A. D. 1628, of the lands from three miles south of Char^s^ river to three miles North of Merrimack river, and in longitude that breadth throughout the main Land from Sea, to Sea, which grant in A. D. 1629 was confirmed by King Charles the 1st, with the exception afors^d^, in the Plymouth pattent more fully Expressed and explained.

[Prince 1st part, pg. 171 & 180.]

5th. In 1631 Robert Earl of Warwick, president of the Council of Plymouth, having obtained a grant from s^d^ Council and Confirma-

tion thereof by the Crown conveyed to the Lord Say and Seal & all the Lands within the following limits, (viz.,) all that part of New England in America, which lies and extends itself from a River there called Narraganset River, the space of 40 leagues upon a strait, on the Sea shore towards the South South West, or West as the coast lyeth towards Virginia, accounting three English Miles to the league, also all the lands &c., within the limits af^d, North and South in latitude & breadth, & in length & longitude of and within all the breadths af^d thro-out the main lands there from the *Western Ocean* to the *South Sea*.

VI. In 1635, The Council of Plymouth resigned their patent to the Crown.

VII. The Colony of Connecticut 1636, settled on the lands af^d under the said patents as associates to Lord Say & Seal &c. in 1638 formed among themselves a Constitution of Government obtained from the Natives their rights to the lands by purchase & other lawful means, and extended their Settlements westward on the Sea coast, as far as Marramack, about 40 leagues, the western boundary of the Eastern part of the said patent, which was divided from the western part by the possession of the Dutch in Hudsons River; they passed over the Manhattoes or new Netherlands & extended their Claims and Settlements Westward to Delaware river.

VIII. In 1662 King Charles the 2d granted to the Govr and Comp^y of the Colony of Connecticut and therein and thereby did give, grant & Confirm unto s^d Govr and Comp^y all that part of his Dominions in N. England bounded East on Narragansit river, commonly called Narragansit Bay, where the said River falleth into the Sea; on the North by the Line of the Massachusetts plantation, & on the South by the Sea, and in Longitude as the Line of the Massachusetts Colony, running from East to West, that is to say from the said Narragansit bay on the East, to the South Sea on the West part, &c.

IX. In 1664 King Charles the 2d gave a patent to his brother, the Duke of York, of all that part of New England from St. Croix, next adjoining to New Scotland, from thence, on the Sea Coast to Pemaquid, and so up that River to its head, as it tendeth Northward, and Extending from thence to the river Kenebeque, and upwards, by the shortest Course, to the River Canada, northward, also the Island called Mattowack's or Long Island, with the said River Hudson & all the Lands from the west side of Connecticut River to the East side of Delaware Bay, with the Islands called Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket, &c.

X. The Crown of England having granted all the Lands from the 40° to 48°, N. Latitude, to the Plymouth Company, excepting as therein is excepted; the Duke of York's patent took effect by force of the Exception in the patent to the Plymouth Company, & accordingly in the settlement of the Line with Connecticut, the Duke's

patent was reduced nearly to the Dutch possessions on Hudson's River, Eastward.

XI. In 1753 the Colony of Connecticut, having settled all the Lands in their patent East of their Line, settled with the Duke of York, several Companies of Adventurers were formed for the purpose of making settlements within the Charter and patent af^d, on the West of Delaware River, agreeable to the original Extent thereof, and purchased of the Indians, the Native proprietors, sundry large tracts of Land on the Delaware & Susquehannah Rivers, and made many Settlements there on the Lands in Controversy, under the Colony of Connecticut, of which the Gen. Assembly of Connecticut have approved.

XII. The Colony of Connecticut, always considering the Land in dispute to be within their Charter & Patent, in 1771, being informed that the proprietors of Pennsylvania pretended seriously to Claim the said Land, applied for and obtained the Opinion of Learned Council in England on the Question, and at a General Assembly held at N. Haven, Oct., 1773, the Colony of Connecticut did assert their right of Jurisdiction of property & of preemption in and to the Lands in Question, & for many Years last past have actually exercised Jurisdiction over the same.

XIII. The Colony of Connecticut at the time of the late Revolution were in fact seized of the right of Jurisdiction of property & of the right of preemption in and to all the territory in their Charter and patent af^d, including the Lands in Question, and were then in the Actual possession of the *Same*, and exercising Jurisdiction over them.

Indorsed,

Positions by the Agents of Connecticut of their title in the Controversy between that State and the State of Pennsylvania. December, 1782.

No. 33—Positions of the part of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania
vs.
Connecticut.

State and representation of the right of Pennsylvania in, to and over all that Tract of land in America as the same is bounded on the East by the river Delaware, on the North by the begining of the 43° degree of Northern latitude, on the South by the States of Delaware, Maryland & Virginia, and extending Westward five Degrees of Longitude from the same Eastern boundary.

Position I. That North America being discovered by *Cabot*, in the years 1494 & 1496, The Crown of England assumed the right of

Granting the property and Jurisdiction thereof to its Subjects by Letters Patent. [2d Harris Vay., 190.

II. That in the year 1681, the Crown of England *justly* considered all the Lands in America, westward of Delaware river and Northwards of Baltimore's Patent, as ungranted Land, & open to a new Patent.

III. That accordingly, in the same year, King Charles the second Granted to *William Penn* & his Heirs & Assigns, "all that Tract "of Land in America as the same is bounded on the East by Dela- "ware river from twelve miles distance Northward of New Castle "Town, unto the 43° of Northern latitude, if the same river doth "extend so far northward; then by the said river so far as it doth "extend, and from the Head of the said river the Eastern bounds "are to be determined by a Meridian Line to be drawn from the "head of the said river unto the said 43°; the said Land to extend "Westwards five degrees in Longitude, to be computed from the said "Eastern bounds, and the said Lands to be bounded on the North "by the begining of the 43° of Northern Latitude, and on the South "by a circle drawn at twelve miles distance from New Castle Town "Northwards, and Westwards unto the begining of the 40° degree of "Northern Latitude, and then, by a straight line to the limits of Lon- "gitude above mentioned;" by which Letters patent the Powers of Government & the right of Soil within the Limits afs^d, were conveyed. [Original produced. Copy in the 1st Vol. of Laws, and in the 1st Vol. of the Votes of Assembly.

IV. That this Grant was long depending before the King in Council—considered with more *attention* and *caution* than usual—and after hearing all objections that could be made to it, was passed on the 4th of March, 1680—in consideration of *Debts* Due from the Crown, & also in consideration of the *Services* of Sir William Penn, the Father of the Grantee—And that the same grant or Charter was immediately published by the Proprietor, William Penn. [9 Vol. Biog. Dic., pg. 248. 2 Vol. Harris' Voy., pg. 293. 1 Vol. Votes of Assembly, pg. 8. 4 Bac., 212; 2 Inst., 446, For value as consis^s to be lib^y taken. 2 Dang., 306. 1 Vot. Ass'y, 8, 9, 10, 11. 9 Biog. Dict., 248.]

V. That to prevent any Claim which the Duke of York might have upon Pennsylvania, the said William Penn obtained a release from him of all such his right, title or interest, by Deed duly executed, bearing date the 21st Day of Aug^t, 1682. [1 Vot. Ass'y, copy of release. 2 Doug., 305. 1 Cold. Hist., 52, 53, 104. Husk., 15, 16.

VI. That upon the faith of this Grant great numbers came from Europe to Pennsylvania, extended the Settlements already begun, and, together with the proprietors, exercised Jurisdiction over all the lands within the bounds of the said patent, untill the Revolution in the Year 1776. [Prov. Laws, 112. Council Book F., Sep. 21st, 1722. Prov. Laws, 152, 200. 2 Cold. Hist., 115, 131, 2, 4. Prov. Laws, 230, 234, 278, 158, 430. Connect. Laws, 52. Litchfield Co'y.]

VII. That not content with the title which the patent gave him to the Soil, (which could be no more than the right of Pre-emption,) tho' their Proprietor and his successors purchased the Lands from the Native Indians for valuable considerations, and in this equitable manner obtained a just and complete title to almost all the Lands within the bounds of the then province of Pennsylvania. [Dunmor's Defence, 18. 2 Rec. His. Col., 348. 1 Dang., 5. Indian Deeds from No. 2 to No. 43. Cold. Hist., 106. Council Book M. in 1749 & 1754. Indian Treatys.]

VIII. That in 1736 (being 72 years after the Charter of Connecticut was granted, and during which time there was not a pretence of a Claim by that colony to any Lands within the limits afors^d,) The Indians of the Six Nations in a public and solemn manner conveyed the right of Pre-emption to the then Proprietaries; and covenanted to sell the Lands within the Limits of the Charter of Pennsylvania *to none but to them*, their Heirs and Assigns. [Indian Deeds N° 33 and No. 37. 2 Cold. Hist.]

IX. That in 1754 and 1758, a Second and third Deed of the same kind was made in the same manner, and the former Deed recognised: It was also recognized at Fort Stanwix in 1768. [Indian Deeds No. 39 and No. 41. Treaty of Fort Stan'x.]

X. That actual Settlements were made by the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania, & under rights derived from the proprietaries on the Lands in Controversy, for [more] than twenty years, before any claim or settlements on those Lands were made by any persons claiming under Connecticut. [Surveys, No. 39, A., July, 1730. No. 32, B., May, 1730. No. 28, C., May, 1732. No. 48, D., May, 1732. No. 34, E., Oct^r, 1730. Testimony of James Van Aken, Esqr. Actual Settlement in 1740.]

XI. That by an Act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania (then and still being a free sovereign and independent State,) passed on the 27th Day of November, 1779, all the Estate, title and interest of the then proprietaries, is vested in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in consideration whereof, the sum of £130,000 sterling money is granted to the said Proprietaries. [Laws of the Commonwealth, pg.]

Indorsed,

Inter
Pennsylvania and Connecticut. } Positions of Penns^a.

No. 34—Deeds Produced in Evidence at Trenton, 1783.

No. 1. Indian Purchase made by the Dutch of Land between Bombay Hook & Cape Henlopen. [Missing belongs to the Delaware State.]

No. 2. 3 numbers mark'd 2. July 15th, 1682. An Original Deed eaten by Mice in some parts, but the Marks & Seals mostly perfect, executed for Lands in Pennsylvania lying between Delaware Falls & Nishaminy creek with the Islands Mahnikunks, Sapussinks, and Orecktons in Consideration of a large Quantity of Goods & 300 Guilders in money, with an Indorsement of the 1st, August 1682, executed by other Indians Owners of some of the Lands & Islands comprised in the said Deeds.

Indian Names to the Original Deed. [N. B. not on Record.]

IDQUAHON,	SHAURWACIGHON,
I. ANOTTOWE,	SWANPISSE,
IDQUOQUEYWON,	NAHOOSEY,
SAHOPPE for himself & OKONICKON,	TOMACKHICKON,
	WISKEKITT,
MERKEKOWON,	TALAWSIS—
OREKTON for MANNAMSEY.	Indian Sachamakers

Indians Names to the Indorsment.

IDQUOQUEYWON,	ESSEXAMARTHATTE,
SWANPISSE,	NANNESHESSHAM,
FILERAPPAMOND,	PYLERHAY.

With two Counterparts signed by Governr. Wm. Markham before witnesses.

No. 3. June 23, 1683 Two numbers mark'd No. 3. Grant of Tamanen & Metamequan and other Indians of their Lands between Pennepack & Nishaminy creeks & all along Nishaminy with an acknowledgment of Reciet of Goods in Consideration for said Lands. [Not recorded.]

No. 4. do. Grant of the same Lands from other Indians all along Nishaminy & 2 days Journey backwards with a Horse. [Not recorded.]

No. 4. do. A Duplicate of the same. [Not recorded.]

No. 5. June 25 1683. Grant of Lands on the West Side of Schuylkill from Wingebone beginning at the first Falls and from thence all along the said River as far as his. Right goes. [Not recorded.]

No. 6. July 14th, 1683. Grant of Lands lying betwixt Manaiunk alias Schuylkill & Pemmapecka creeks, so far as the Hill called Consohockin on the said River Manaiunk & from thence by a North-East Line to the River Pemmapacka, Sign'd by the following Indians—Nene-Shickhan, Malibore, Neshanocke, & witnessed by Catemus, Indian King, With particular accot. inserted of the Goods &c., paid on acct. of said Lands. [Not recorded.]

No. 7. 5th Month 14th, 1683. Grant of Lands lying between Manaiunk alias, Schuylkill beginning on the West Side of Manaiunk

called Consohockon & from thence by a Westerly Line to Macopanackhan, alias Chester River, from Secane, and Icquoquehan, Indian Sachemmakers & Right Owners of said Lands, With List of Goods recd. in Consideration of said Lands. Not recorded.*

No. 8. 1683, Septr 10th. Grant from Keketappan of Opasiskunk for his half of all his Land betwixt Sasquehannah & Delaware which lieth on the Sasquehannah Side, With a Promise to sell at the next Spring on his return from hunting his Right to the other half of said Lands. [Not recorded.]*

No. 9. 1683, Sepr 7th. Answer of Mohocks, Cayugas, Oneidos & Onondago Indians at the Mohock's Castle to Wm. Penn's Belts certified by the Interpreter of the Province of N. York, Airnout Corn Viel & translated by the Secretary Robt Livingston, wherein those Indians set forth their Conquest of the Sasquehannah Lands and their Willingness to sell to Wm. Penn.

Extracted from the Minute Books of the Commiss'rs at Albany.

No. 10, & Duplicate. 1683, Septr 26th. Propositions of the same Indians to the Commiss'rs of Albany, wherein they say that Four years before they had delivered the Sasquehannah Indians to Govern'r Dungan and now deliver them again.

Extracted out of the Minute Book of the Commiss'rs at Albany, & certified by Secretary Robt Livingston.

No. 11. 1683, Sepr 26. Answer of Com'rs to the said Propositions, wherein they give the Indians Goods as a Confirmation of the Gift of the said Lands to Govn'r Dungan and they receive the Delivery of them.

Extracted from the same Minute Book and certified by the same Person.

No. 12. 1683, Sept'r 28. Resolution of Commissioners, that Wm. Penn's Agent cannot treat till an Answer arrives from Govern^r Dungan, upon which Indians decline to stay & presist in their Deed to Gov'r Dungan.

Extract'd from the same Minute Book & certified by the same Person.

No. 13. 1683, 8^br ye 4th. Final Answer of Albany Commis'rs to Mr. Wm. Haig & Mr. James Graham, Agents of Prop^r Wm. Penn, referr^s them to Govenor Dungan for the Purchase of the Sasquehannah Lands. "Extracted" as No. 12.

No. 14. 1683, 8^br 18. Assignment of Lands lying between Delaware, Chesapeak Bay & Sasquehannah River from Machaloha Owner of said Lands, & signed in the Presence of many Indians—Whose Names are partly eaten off the Deed by the Mice.*

No. 15. 1683, 10 mo. ye 19th. A promise & Engagement of Seketanus and Kalehickop & Nocheotamen & Toonis & Leleghanan & Wippais to sell to the Prop^r Wm. Penn in the Spring next all their

* These are printed in Archives, Vol. I. See also Smith's laws, Vol. 2 —Note.

Lands lying on Christiana & upland Creek, after the same Manner as Kehlappan & Others sell theirs—With an Acknowledgment of Rec^t of some Goods in part of Pay.[Not recorded.]

No. 16. 1684, 3d 4th Month. Grant of Lands on Pahkehoman from Maughougsinh Acknowledgment of Goods rec'd in Satisfaction & a Promise never to molest any Christians that shall settle thereon ℘ Order of the Prop^r Wm. Penn. [Not recorded.]*

No. 17. 4th Month 7th, 1684. Grant of Lands on both sides of Pemmapecka creek on the River Delaware from Richard Mettamicont, Owner of said Lands, with an acknowledgment of Satisfaction received & Promise not to molest any Christians settled therein by order of Propr. Wm. Penn. [Not recorded.]*

No. 18. 1685, 5th, mo. ye. 30. Grant of Lands lying between Macoponackan (alias upland now Chester River or creek) and the River or Creek Pemmapecka (now called Dublin creek,—Beginning at the Hill called Consohickin on the River Manaiunk alias Schuylkill from thence extending a Paralel Line to the said Macoponackan or Chester creek by a South Westerly Course, and from the said Consohickin Hill to the aforesaid Pemapecka (or Dublin) creek by said Parallel Line North Westerly, and so up along the said Pemapecka creek as far as the creek extends and from thence North Westerly back into the Woods to make up two full Days Journeys as far as a Man can go in two days from the said Station &ca., With acknowledgment of Goods &ca., received in Satisfaction—The Deed signed by Shakhoppoh, Secane, Malibore, Tangoras.—Indian Sachem makers and right owners of said Lands & attested ℘ many other Indians of Note, & Christian ℘s sent. [Not recorded.]*

No. 19. Augt. ye. 2d, 1684. Proposition of the Onondage & Cayuga Sechams made in the Town Hall of Albany before the Right Honoble. the Lord Effingham Gov. of Virginia, & Col. Thomas Dungan Gov. of New York., purporting that they had put all their Lands & themselves under the Protection of the Great Duke of York.

No. 20. 1685, 2d mo. & a Duplicate. Grant of Lands from Quing Quingus called duck creek unto Upland called Chester Creek all along by the West Side of Delaware River and so between the said creeks backwards as far as a Man can ride in two Days with a Horse, acknowledge Satisfaction received.—Deed signed by Pare, Packenah, Tarcekhan, Sichais, Pitqnassitt, Towis, Essepenaick, Petkhoy, Kekelappan, Eomus, Machaloha, Metcheconga, Wissa, Porvey, Indian Kings, Sachem Makers & Right Owners of all the said Lands. [Recorded in Book F. Vol. 8, Page 121, 21st April, 1735.]*

An Exemplified Copy of the same.

No. 21. Augt. 20, 1683. A very ancient Copy of a Deed from Mayhkeerickkishsho, Sayhoppey, Taughhaughsey, Indian Kings,

* Printed in Vol. I.

& right owners of the said Lands for all that Tract and those Tracts of Lands lying and being in the Province of Pennsylvania, Begining. from a Corner marked Spruce Tree by the River Delaware about Mackeerickkitten and from thence running along the Ridge or Foot of the Mountains Wst. N. Wst, to a corner White Oak marked with the Letter P. Standing by the Indian Path yt. leadeth to an Indian Town called Playwickey and from thence extending Westward to Neshaminy Creek from which said Line the said Tract or Tracts hereby granted to extend itself back into the Woods as far as a Man can go in one day & a half & bounded Westerly as far as the most Westerly Branch of said Neshaminy creek, &c., together with all the Islands in the River Delaware, Witnessed by several other Indians & Christians. [Not recorded, wanting & immaterial Included in the Deed of 1736 & other Deeds & determined in Favor of the Proprietors of Pennsylvania at the Treaty of Easton before Sir Wm. Johnston. See Council Books. This Deed of Augt. 20th, 1686 *expressly* confirmed by the *Deed* herein after mentioned, No. 35, and Dated 25th Augt. 1737.]*

No. 22. 1692, June 15. Grant of Lands lying between Neshamin agnd Poquessing, upon the River Delaware, & extending backwards to the utmost Bounds of the said Province. With acknowledmt of Satisfaction rec'd, Signed King Taminent—King Tangorus—King Swampes—King Hickoqueon. [Not recorded.]*

No. 23. 1696, Jany 12. Governor Dungans Lease for 1000 years for Lands on both Sides the River Sasquehannah, & the Lakes adjacent as far as the Great bay of Chesapeak.*

No. 24. 1696, Jany 13. Governor Dungan's Release in Fee of the same Lands to William Penn.*

No. 25. 1697, July the 5th. Granted of Lands lying between the Creek called Pemapeck, and the Creek called Neshaming in the Province of Pennsylvania, and extending in Length from the Delaware so far as an Horse can travel in two Summer Days, and to carry its Breadth according to the several Courses of the two Creeks will admit to the end of its main Branch, and then upon a direct Course of each side to its full breadth.

Deed Signed by

King Taminey,
Weheeland,
Weheequeekhon, alias Andrew,
Yaquekhon, alias Nicholas,
Quenamequid alias Charles.

[Acknowledg'd in open Court at Philada, 6 July, 1697. Recorded in Rolls Office, 7th 12 mo., 1697–8, in Book E. 3 Vol., Pages 57 & 58.]*

No. 26. 1700, April 16. Engagement from under the hands & Seals of Keteoquean and Metashichay (two Inda Kings) to put and

* Printed in Vol. I.

maintain the Prop^r Wm. Penn in quiett Possession of the Island Sepaassing granted him by them 18 years ago.

No. 27. 1700, Septr 13th. Deed for Lands lying on both Sides the Susquehannah River and all the Islands in said River and next adjoin'g the same and extending to the utmost Confines of the Lands which are or formerly were the Right of the People called Susquehannah Indians, or whatever other name they were called. Also ratifying and confirming the sale of said Lands made by them to Col. Dungan.

Deed signed by

Widaagh, alias Oryhjagh, Andaggy, " Junkquagh.	Kings & Sachems of the Susqueh^a Ind^s & the River of that name & lands lying on both Sides thereof.

Recorded at Philad^a, in Book F. Vol. 8. Page 242. 26 Aug^t, 1735.*

No. 28. 1701, April 23. Articles of Agreement between William Penn & the Susquehannah, Shawonah, Potowmack and Conestogoe Indians, wherein among other things they ratify and confirm Govr Dungan's Deeds of the 12 & 13 Jan'y, 1696, and the Deed of the Susquehannah Indians Oretyagh, &c^a., of 7^br 13, 1700. Recorded in Philad^a, in Book F., Vol. 18, p. 43.*.

No. 2. 1718, 7^br, the 17. Release from Sundry Delaware Indian Chiefs for all the Lands situate between the two Rivers Delaware & Susquehannah, from Duck Creek to the Mountains on this Side Lechay with an Acknowledgment that they have seen and heard divers Deeds of Sale read unto them under the Hands and Seals of former Kings & Chiefs of the Delaware Indians, y^r Ancestors & Predecessors who were owners of said Lands, by which they had granted the said Lands to Wm. Penn, with which they were satisfied and content, which for a further Consideration of Goods delivered them they now confirm.

Deeds signed by

Sassoonah,	Ayyamaikan,
Mestasheechay,	Opekasset,
Ghettypeneeman,	Pepawmamsan,
Pokebais,	& others.

Recorded in Book A. Vol. 6. Pa. 59 & 60. 13 May, 1728.

No. 30. 1726, May the 31st. Release from Sheekokonickan Mekanoppy, Talowlis, George alias Seegahtachman, for all that Tract of Land stuate on both Sides of the Brandywine Creek, from the Mouth thereof where it enters the River Delaware, up to a certain Rock in the said Creek, near the upper Line of Abraham Marshall's Land. [Not recorded.]

No. 31. 1732, Septr. 7th. Release of all those Tracts of Land lying on or near the River Schuylkill, situate & lying between those

* Printed in Vol. I.

Hills called Lechaiy Hills, & those Hills called Kittytamenin Hills, which cross the River Schuylkill about thirty Miles above the said Lechaiy Hills, and all Land whatsoever lying within the said Bounds & between the Branches of Delaware River on the Eastern Side of the said Land and the Branches or streams running into the River Sasquehannah on the Western Side of the said Land.—Deed signed by Sassoonan, alias Allumapis,—Ohopamen,—Maycemoc,—Alalapis —Pesqueetom,—Partridge,—Teepakoassett,—Lingahnoa. [Not recorded.]*

No. 32. 1733, Augt. 20. A Confirmation of the same, with Acknowledgement of the Rect. of the Goods for said Purchase. Signed by the above named Indians and Lapahpaton—Nelahotan. [Not recorded.]

No. 33. 1736, 8 ber. 11th & 25th; Two Deeds. Release of the River Sasquehannah and the Lands lying on both Sides thereof, to extend Eastward as far as the Heads of the Branches or Spring, which run into the said River Sasquehannah, and all the Lands lying on the West Side of Sasquehannah to the Setting of the Suns and to extend from the Mouth of the said River Northward up the same to the Hills called Kekathtanimi Hills, with a Confirmation of Govr. Dungan's Deed to Govr. Penn. Deed signed by 23 Indian Chiefs of the Onondago, Seneca, Oneida & Tuscarora Nations. [Recorded in Book G., Vol. 1st, pa. 277. May 7, 1741.]*

No. 34. A Petition from some of the Chiefs of the Onondago, Seneca, Cayugas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras Indians, in Behalf of themselves and of the Cayugas & Mohawks, requesting their Brethren, Onas & James Logan, to write to the Governments of Maryland and Virginia, acquainting them that they will make them Consideration for their Lands in those Provinces—That they will endeavour to get them their Goods sold cheaper, and that no Christian People may buy any Lands of their Cousins the Delawares, for that they have no Right to sell any Lands, not having any remaining. [Indorsed in the Prop's, Tho's Penn's own Hand, & dated Novr. 19, 1736. Wanting & immaterial.]

No. 35. Augt. 25, 1737. Releasd from Tisheckunk, Nutimus two of the Sachems of the Delaware Indians with thirteen others of the same nation for all the Lands particularly mention'd in the Deed No. 21 dated August 20, 1686 lying on Delaware, In which Deed these Indians mentioned their having begun a Treaty with the Proprs. Jno. & Thos. Penn at Durham three years before, and the next Spring another Meeting at Pennsbury, where they had seen the several Deeds made by their Forefathers more than Fifty years before, wherein these Land were conveyed by them to their old Friend and Brother Wm. Penn in Consideration of large Quantities of Goods they at that Time received, which Lands the aforesaid Indians now confirm the Sale of. [Recorded in Book G. Vol 1st, Pa. 282 &c., May 8. 1741.]*

* Printed in Vol. I.

No. 36. A Map of the Upper Part of Bucks County showing the Limits of the Purchase formerly made of the Indian (wherein the Walk of one day and a half as walk'd on the 19th, & 20th 7br. 1737 by Edward Marshall & James Yates of about Sixty miles is particularly laid down) and Released by the Indians in the Year 1737, by the said Deed No. 35.

No. 37. 1736, 8br. 25. Deed of Confirmation from fifteen Chiefs of the six Nation Indians, (Viz. Onondagoes, Senecas, Cayugas, Oneidas, Tus-caroras in Behalf of the Canyingoes or Mohocks,) for all the Lands as mentioned in Deed No. 33 datd. 8br. 11th, 1736, with this further Declaration that their true Intent & Meaning of said Writing was & is to release, & they do now more expressly release to the Prop'r & their Heirs & Successrs. all the Lands lying within the Bounds & Limits of the Government of Pennsylvania beginning Eastward on the River Delaware as far Northward as the said Ridge or Chain of endless mountains as they cross the Country of Pennsylvania from the Eastward to the West. [Wanting, but Recorded in Book G. Vol. 2d, Pa. 350, 22d May, 1741.]

And as they are become one People with the Government of Pennsylvania they do promise & engage for themselves & their Children, that neither they nor any in authority in their nations will ever bargain, grant or sell any of the Lands within the Government of Pennsylvania to any white Man, or Indian, or any other Person than to said Proprietors & their Children or such as they may authorize to agree for the same.

July the 9th, 1754. And by an Indorsement on this Deed dated July 9th, 1754 nine Chiefs of the Mohocks under their Hands & Seals confirm the sale of said Lands and covenant promise & engage with the Proprs. Thos. & Rd. Penn that neither they nor any under their authority shall grant or convey to any other Person than the sd. Proprs. their Heirs & assigns any Lands within the Limits of the said Province.

Augt. 22d, 1749. Deed from Sundry Chiefs of the Onondago, Senecas, Mohocks, Oneidas, Cayugas, Tuscaroras, & the Shamokin, Delawares and Shawonese Indians, to Thomas Penn & Richard Penn Proprs. for all that Tract & Parcel of Land described as follows, Beginning at the Hills or mountains called Kekachtany Hills on the East Side of the River Sasquehannah being in the North West Line or Boundary of the Tract of Land formerly purchased by the said Proprs from the said Indian nations by their Deed of the 11th of Octobr. 1736, and from thence running up the said River by the several Courses thereof to the first or nearest mountain to the north side of the mouth of the creek called Maghonioy and from thence extending by a direct or strait Line to be run from the said Mountain on the north side of the said creek to the main Branch of Delaware River at the North Side of the mouth of the Creek called Lecha-

wachsien and from thence to run across Lechawachsien Creek aforesaid down the River Delaware by the several Courses thereof to the Kekachtany Hills aforesaid and from thence by the Range of the said Hills to the Place of Beginning as more fully appears by the Draught or Map annexed to the Deed. Deed signed by Four Onondago Chiefs, Four Senecas, Two Mohocks, Three Oneiders, Three Cayugas, Two Tuscaroras, Two Delawares, One Shawonese.

Chiefs—The Delaware Chiefs were,

NUTIMUS, & QUALPAGHACH,
The Shawonese BACK SINOSA.

[Recorded in Book H. Vol 2d, Page 204 May 16, 1752.]

No. 39. 1754, July ye 6th, at Albany. Deed from Sundry Chiefs of the Six Nation Indians, viz.: 6 Mohocks, Five of the Oneidas, One Onondago, (in behalf of himself and all the Sachems and Chiefs of the Onondago Nation) Four of the Cayugas, Three of the Siniker Nation & Five of the Tuscarora Nation, in Consideration of £400 York Curr. to Thomas & Richard Penn, &c., for all the Lands lying within the Province of Pennsylvania, bounded and limited as follows: Beginning at the Kekachtany or Blue Hills on the West Branch of Sasquehannah River, and thence by the said River a Mile above the Mouth of a certain Creek called Kayarondinhagh, thence North West and by West as far as the said Province of Pennsylvania extends to its Western Line or Boundary, thence along to the said Western Line to the South Line or Boundary of the said Province, thence by the said South line or Boundary to the South side of the said Kittitany Hills, thence by the South Side of the said Hills along the said Hills to the Place of Beginning, with this Proviso added, that notwithstanding the Sales of these Lands now made by the Indians there shall ever subsist and be mutually preserved on both Parties & their Children to the latest Posterity, the same Love, Friendship & kind Treatment, that hath all along subsisted and does now subsist between them. [Recorded at Philada., in Book H., Vol. 5, Page 392, &c. Feb. 3d, 1755.]

Copy of an Indorsement made on the Deed as found in a Paper in Conrad Weiser's Hand. [This Indorsement appears to have been made on the Deed executed & delivered to the Indians.]

Be it remembered that although the Consideration Money now paid & which is the real Sum agreed for, yet before the Execution of the Deed it was further agreed by us with the Indians that whenever the Lands over the Apalachian Hills should be settled, the Indians who signed the Deed are to receive a further Sum, not exceeding the present Consideration Money.

Witnesses present, } JNO. PENN, [Seal]
RD. PETERS, [Seal.]

ISAAC NORRIS, B. FRANKLIN, JAS. STEVENSON,
WM. FRANKLIN, C. WEISER.

N. B. The above is a true Copy of the Indorsement on the

Indian's Deed left in my Custody by Tachnechdorus, an Indian Chief, until he shall have Occasion to call for it. Compared by me,

CONRAD WEISER.

April 26, 1755.

No. 40. 1757, 7 Nov. Deed from Thomas & Richard Penn to the Six Nations releasing to them all the Lands conveyed to the said Proprietors by the before mentioned Deed of the 6th of July, 1754, lying to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains.

No. 41. 1758, 23 Oct. Deed from the Six Nations to Thomas & Richard Penn reciting their Release of the Lands in the preceding Deed, & confirming to them the Residue of all the Lands conveyed in the said Deed of 6th July, 1754, with a Map of the said Lands. [Recorded in Book I., Vol. 4, Pa. 488.]

No. 42. 1768, Nov. 5th. D^d The Chiefs of the Six Nations to the Proprietors of Pennsylvania.

No. 43. 1694, August 15. Treaty with the Five Nations at Albany.

Received January 3d, 1783, of Timothy Matlack, Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, the foregoing deeds and papers, the same being returned into the Secretary's office by Henry Osborne, Esquire, after the trial between the States of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and for which I, as Secretary of the Land Office, am to be accountable.

DAVID KENNEDY, Sr Ld Off.

Indorsed,

1783, January 3d. List of Indians deeds or Grants produced in evidence to Court of Commissioners at Trenton.

Genl. Irvine to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

Fort Pitt, Jany. 1st, 1783.

Sir,

Inclosed I transmit to your Excellency an account of a Sum of money delivered to me by Col. Carnahan,* and intended towards defraying the expences of an expedition against the Indian Settlements on Sandusky. You will easily convince yourself that notwithstanding every preparation being adequate to the exertions necessary, and notwithstanding the delay of the orders countermanding my march, the expences incurred are inconsiderable. I am in hopes even of putting off the Keggs at no disadvantage.

A Ballance of the money sent me for the purpose of recruiting the Pennsylva. Line remains in my Hands. I expect your Excel-

* See page 630, 635, 648.

lency's Orders in what manner to dispose of it. The different tryals have all proved unsuccessfull, not only in the number of recruits, but with respect to the objects themselves.

I am with due respect

Your Excellency's most

obedient humble Servant,

WM. IRVINE.

Directed,

His Excellency J. Dickinson, Esq.

Indorsed,

Read in Council, Jan. ye 27th, 1783. Ordered, That the account read herewith be laid before the Comptroller General.

RETURN OF THE OFFICERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE, BY ARRANGEMENT, JANUARY 1, 1783.

ARTILLERY.

LIEUT. COL. Andrew Porter, 75 Doll.
MAJOR Isaac Craig, 62½

CAPTAINS.

Charles Turnbull,	50	John Brice,	50
William Ferguson,	50	Jonas Symonds,	50

CAPTAIN LIEUTENANTS.

James Lloyd,	33⅓	Robert McConnell,	33⅓
James Smith,	33⅓	Jesse Crossley,	33⅓

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.

John Stricker,	33⅓	Samuel Ashton, P. M.,	33⅓
Samuel Doty,	33⅓	John B. Webster, Q. M.,	33⅓

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

Robert Parker, Adj.,	33⅓	Ezekiel Howell,	33⅓
Henry Greer,	33⅓	Pay Mr., Adj. & Qr. Mr.	62
		Robert Porter,	33⅓

James Gamble, 33⅓, Jno. Humphrey, 33⅓, and John Vancourt, 33⅓—the first a Lieut., and the others Ensigns in the Infantry—no vacancies being for them were transferred to and commissioned as Second Lieutenants in ye Artillery.

FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Col. Daniel Brodhead.
Lieut. Col. Josiah Harmar.
Major Frederick Vernon.

Captains.

John Doyle,
Benjn. Fishbourne, Aid,
Andrew Irvine,
Thomas B. Bowen,
Jacob Humphrey,
Isaac Seely,
John Bankson,
William Wilson,
Joseph Finley.

Lieutenants.

Andrew Lytle,
James McMichael,
George Blewer,
John Ward,
Joseph Collier,
Robert Martin,
Edward Spear,
James Morris Jones,
Stewart Herbert,
Blackall H. Ball,
James Millegan,
Llewellin Davis,
James Campbell,
George Le Roy,
William Moore,
James McFarland, Qr. Mr.,
James McPherson,
Richard Fullerton, Adj.,
Jacob Weitzell,
David McKnight,
Joseph Irvine.

Surgeon.

William Magaw.

Mate.

John Wilkin or John Rague (not known which is eldest.)

SECOND REGIMENT.

Colonel Richard Humpton.
Lt. Colonel Thomas Robinson.
Major James Moore.

Captains.

James Christie,
Laurence Keeno, Aid,
James Carnachan,
Samuel Tolbert,
Jacob Bower,
Thomas Boude,
Robert Wilkin,
Alexander Parker,
John Finley.

LIEUTENANTS.

James Glentworth,
Percival Butler,
John Mahon,
John McCullum,
Henry D. Purcell, Qr. Mr.,
William Morren,
Andrew Henderson,
Samuel Bryson,
Enos Reeves,
Edward Butler, Adj.,
Wilder Bevins.
William Huston, Adj.,
J. B. Tilden,
Sankey Dixon,
Gabriel Peterson,
William McDowell,
James Pettegrew,
Abner M. Dunn,
Henry Henley,
Thomas Duagan, P. Mr.,

SURGEON.

John McDowell.

MATE.

Either John Rague or John Wilkin (not known which is the eldest.)

THIRD REGIMENT.

COLONEL Richard Butler.
LT. COLONEL Stephen Bayard.
MAJOR James Grier.

CAPTAINS.

Walter Finney,
George Bush,
Andrew Walker, (not ord'd.)
Isaac B. Dunn, Aid, Brevet Maj.,
John Clark,
George McCully,
John Christie,
Saml. Montgomery,
Jacob Stahe,

LIEUTENANTS.

Henry Piercy,
Benjamin Lodge, P. M.,
Ercurius Beatty, P. M.,
Robert Peebles,
John Markland,
Fras. Thornbury,
A. D. Marcellin,
Daniel St. Clair,
John McKinney,
David Hammond,
John Stricker,
John Pratt, Qr. Mr.,
Nathan Smith,
John Rosse, Aid,
John Crawford,
Edward Crawford,
Thomas Doyle,
John Armstrong,
Robert Allison,
Samuel Reed,
Ebenezer Denny,

SURGEON.

John Rogers.

MATE.

Richard Allison.

CHAPLAIN.

David Jones.

No return of the Cavalry come to hand.

The above is a true copy from the records of the War Office.

JOS. CARLETON, Sec'y.

List of the Officers of the Pennsylvania Line who retired from Service on the first day of January, 1783.

CAVALRY.

No return.

ARTILLERY.

MAJOR Francis Proctor.

CAPTAINS.

Robert Coltman,
William Power,
Worsley Emes,
Thomas Douglas,
James McClure,
William Martin.

CAPTAIN LIEUTENANT.

Matthew McGuire, P. Mr.

INFANTRY.

COLONELS.

Walter Stewart,
Thomas Craig.

LT. COL. COM. William Butler.

LIEUT. COLONELS.

Caleb North,
Francis Mentges, Div. Inspector.

MAJORS.

James Hamilton,
William Alexander,
Evan Edwards, Ad. Gen. So.,
Thomas L. Moore.

CAPTAINS.

John Davis,
John McClellan,
John Patterson,
Isaac Van Horne,
William Sproat, Aid,
John Bush,
Henry Becker,
John Steel,
—— McCurdie,
William Lurk,

Samuel Brady,
David Ziegler, Inspector,
Edward Burke,
*Andrew Walker,
A. G. Claypoole,
John Marshall,
William Henderson.
Samuel Kennedy,
Thomas Campbell,
Samuel Smith,
Robert Patton,
—— Stephenson,
Job Vernon,
Jeremiah Jackson,
Benj. Bartholemew,
William Vanlear, B. Major.

* [Mr. Walker is also returned as continued in Service, Vide arrangement.]

LIEUTENANTS.

William Feltman,
Michael Everly,
John Harper,
Andrew Johnston,
John Wigton, P. Mr.,
George North,
Francis White,
Peter Smith, Qr. Mr.,
James Gilchrist.

SURGEONS.

Alexander Stewart,
Jas. Davidson.

MATES.

Robert Wharry,
Robert Harris,
John Rogue or John Wilden, one continued—uncertain which.

The above is a true copy from the Records of the War Office.

JOS. CARLETON, Sec'y.

N. B. In the foregoing List Captain John Pearson should have been returned in the place of Captain Andrew Walker.

JOS. CARLETON, Sec'y.

War Office, Oct'r 17th, 1783.

Indorsed,

Returns from the War Office of the Pennsa. Line, and of pay. The return of Cavalry not here: it was in Council note—'twas signed by Genl. St. Clair.

JOHN MCDOWELL TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Gentlemen:

Soon after my arrival, I waited on the Rev'd Mr. Finley, who, I am happy to find, is willing to engage in the business on which Council was pleased to direct me to confer with him, but cannot set out before the middle or perhaps the latter part of next month.*

* See page 674

He would gladly have a letter with some instructions from Council, as he thinks they may possibly suggest some arguments that might not occur to him.

Mr. Finley's modesty did not permit him to ask any money for expences, tho' I am inclined to think a small sum would be very acceptable, as it is difficult to obtain cash here.

I am of opinion he will be a very proper person to employ, as he is well acquainted with most of the principle People of that place, has frequently Preached among them, & is expected there this spring —he will therefore have it in his power to execute his Commission, without incuring the least suspicion of being employed by Council.

If it is thought proper to engage him, sh'd be glad Council would signify their intention by the Bearer, that the Gentleman may have time to prepare for the Journey.

I am, with the greatest respect,

Your most obedient & very Hble. Servt.,

JOHN M'DOWELL.

⋈ Roads, Jan. 3d, 1783.

Directed,

His Excellency John Dickinson, Esqr., President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

H. Osborne to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

There is now in my possession the records that were obtained from the States of New York and Connecticut, for the use of this State on the late Trial with Connecticut. As these records may yet be of use to the State, I take the liberty of requesting your Excellencys instructions in what manner I shall dispose of them.*

I have the Honr. to be,

Your Excellencys Very Hble. Serv.

H. OSBORNE.

Directed,

His Excellency John Dickinson, Esqr., President.

Indorsed,

Read in Council and Ordered That the Secretary be directed to receive from Mr. Osborne the papers within mentioned.

* See note in Archives Vol. 1. p. 27,—some of the above probably appear in this and other Vols. See also Colonial Rec., Vol. XIII. pp. 462, 472.

Pres. Dickinson to Council, 1783.

Gentlemen,

I beg Leave to transmit to you a Letter from Major Jackson with the Inclosures; and I hope the Determination of Council upon the affair will correspond with my own Sentiments, which are, that a just Respect should be paid to the Pass ports of the Commander in Chief.

I am with great & sincere Esteem,

Gentlemen your most obedient & hble. servt.

JOHN DICKINSON.

January 4th, 1783.

Directed,

The Honorable The Vice President and The Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Wm. Bradford Jr., to Gen. James Irvine, 1783.

Sir,

As at present advised, I am clearly of opinion that the Supreme Executive Council cannot interfere in the seizure of the British Goods, made by Col. Hannem & others so as to prevent a trial being had in Chester County. But I have no doubt those Gentlemen would pay a proper respect to any *recommendation* of Council on this subject.

I am also of opinion that if the goods seized, are necessary for the Prisoners of war & covered by a passport of the Commander in Chief, that they are not contraband nor liable to condemnation and if there has been any *wanton & improper* infringement of the passport it is an offence against the Law of nations, & punishable in our Courts of Judicature.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, Your most obedient,

& very humble servt.

WM. BRADFORD Jun.,*

Gen. Irwin.

Council to the Merchants of Philadelphia, 1783.

Gentlemen,

Messieurs the Count de Capelles & the Chevalier de Villonque, Commanders of his most Christian Majesty's Frigate, the Danair, the Commissioned Officers, have complained to us that a considerable

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 482, 483, 484.

Number of Seamen belonging to those Frigates have been enticed from their Duty, & persuaded to enter on Board other Vessels in this Harbour, and have desired us to provide the best Remedy for this Evil, so inconsistent with the high and grateful Respect due to our esteemed & august ally; so detrimental to the Common Interests of the allied troops.

We think it proper that this application should be immediately communicated to your respectable Body, being assured it will meet in you with sentiments that will induce you to take a part in this Business, & give your aid to the Laws, for discouraging & preventing such unjustifiable & injurious proceedings in future, & for restoring the Deserters to their respective Commanders.

We are with great Respect, Gentlemen,

Your most obed. & h'ble ser'ts.*

Signed in & by order of Council.

Philadelphia, January 6th, 1783.

To the Merchants of the City of Philadelphia.

Proclamation respecting Connecticut Claim, 1783.

By the President and the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Court of Commissioners constituted and declared by the United States in Congress assembled, to hear and finally determine the Controversy between this State and the State of Connecticut, respecting sundry Lands lying within the northern Boundary of this State, having heard the said States respectively, thereupon, proceeded, on the thirtieth Day of December last, to give Judgment in the Words following, *to wit:* "We are unanimously "of Opinion that the State of Connecticut has no Right to the "Lands in Controversy. We are also unanimously of Opinion that "the Jurisdiction and Pre-emption of all the Territory lying within "the Charter Boundary of Pennsylvania, and now claimed by the "State of Connecticut, do of Right belong to the State of Pennsyl-"vania." We have thought fit to make known and Proclaim, and do hereby make known and proclaim the same. And we do hereby charge, enjoin, and require all Persons whatsoever, and more especially such Person and Persons who, under the Authority or Countenance of the late Colony, now State of Connecticut, either before or since the Declaration of Independence, have entered upon and settled Lands within the Bounds of this State, to take Notice of the said Judgment, and pay due Obedience to the Laws of this Commonwealth.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 478, 744.

And whereas there is Reason to fear that the Animosities and Resentments which may have arisen between the People, who, under the Authority or Countenance of the said late Colony, now State of Connecticut, as aforesaid, have made Settlements within the Bounds of this State, and the Citizens of Pennsylvania, who claim the Lands whereon such Settlements have been made, may induce some of the latter to endeavour to gain Possession of the said Lands, by Force and Violence, contrary to Law, whereby the Peace of the State may be endangered, and individuals greatly injured. We do hereby strictly charge, enjoin and require all Persons whatsoever, to forbear molesting, or in any wise disturbing any Person or Persons who, under the Authority or Countenance of the late Colony, now State of Connecticut, as aforesaid, have settled Lands within the Bounds of this State, until the Legislature, or the Courts of Justice, shall have made Laws or passed Judgment, in such Case, as to Right and Justice, may appear to belong, as such Persons offending therein shall answer the contrary at their Peril.—And We do hereby charge, enjoin and require all Judges, Justices, Sheriffs and other Peace Officers, to use their Authority to prevent Offences, and to punish according to Law, all Offences committed or to be committed against any of the People, so as aforesaid, settled under the Authority or Countenance of the said late Colony, now State of Connecticut as aforesaid, on Lands within this State, and who pay due Obedience to the Laws thereof, as in Case of like Offences against any of the Citizens of this State.

Given in Council, under the Hand of the President, and the Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this sixth Day of January, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-three.

JOHN DICKINSON.*

Attest,

T. Matlack, Secretary.

God save the Commonwealth.

Indorsed,

1783, January 6th. Proclamation of Council, founded upon the decree at Trenton in 1782—determination in favour of Penna

Requiring obedience to the laws of Penn.

Petition in Favor of Prisoners by Indians, 1783.

To the Supreme Executive Council of the Common Wealth of Pennsylvania.

We the Subscribers would beg leave to represent the Situation of Henery Dungan Serjt. of Captn. Jno. Boyd's Compay. and Robt Watson, John Marrs and Mich. Hare of Capn. Thos. Stokley's

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 474, where this and some other proceedings are printed—679–724 of this Vol.

Compy of Rangers of this State, that they have been Captured by the Savages in the Summer of Eighty-one and are now on their return from Canada being Destitute of Money and allmost Cloathing would beg that Council would take their Situation under Consideration and grant them such supply's as they in their wisdom shall think necessary.

We are Gentlemen your,
most obedt. & Humbe. Servts.

JNO. BOYD, Captn.
of Rangers S. P.
THOS. STOKELY Capt
of Rangers, S. P.*

January ye 6th 1783.

Indorsed,

Petition on behalf of several Rangers taken by the Indians. Read in Council Jany. 6th, 1783, pay & cloathing ordered.

T. M.

Mons. Marbois to C. J. McKean, 1783

Sir,

Some of our Sailors being according to all reports on board of an American Ship lying at Chester where they have been inticed to go, I Desire you will be so obliging as to give to the Constabler bearer of this, an order to go there & search the Ship, So many attempts are made to withdraw our Sailors from their service, that it will be impossible for the Kings frigates to sail if no stop is put to these practices.

I am with respect Sir,
Your very humble & obedient Servant,

MARBOIS.†

January 7th, 1783.

The authority in this business is vested in Council, See act of Assembly Cha. 180, Sec. 8.

Directed,

To the hoble. McKean, Chief Justice.

Pres. Dickinson to Council, 1783

Gentlemen,

Not being well enough to attend you to day, I enclose several Papers—The Proclamation omitting the third page, seems to be proper—The Attorney General to whom it has been shown is of the same opinion.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 473–4.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 473–4.

The Letter from the Marquis de la Fayette was delivered to me by the assistant Secretary at war. It is needless to say any thing in Favor of a Paper subscribed by that name. I understand that Genl. St. Clair & Col. Porter will inform Council in what manner the Marquis's wishes may be gratified, without giving Disgust to any officer.

Captain Bowen's Certificate was received to day.

The Proclamation should be, I apprehend immediately & very generally distributed thro' the Country lately disputed between this State & Connecticut; and I beg Leave to suggest to Council, whether it may not be expedient that two or three discreet persons should be sent directly into those parts to spread the proclamation and converse with the People, in order to quiet their minds & prevent any Disturbances.

I think it my duty also to remind Councils that it may be proper & necessary to send a sufficient number of Copies of the late Law, & of the Bills past for Consideration, respecting the Designs agitated to the westward, & the appropriation of Lands there to persons to be duly delivered out for the Information of the People—also that a Messenger or Messengers should be sent out according to the Resolution of Assembly.

I am with great & sincere Esteem, Gentlemen,

your most obedt. & hble. Servt.

JOHN DICKINSON.

January 7th, 1783.

The Honorable The supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

Gen. St. Clair to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

Philad^a, Janu'ry 11th, 1783.

Sir,

The Chevalier de Lambert, for whom an Application has been [made] to your Excellency, and who has been so warmly recommended by the Marquis de la fayette,† can be provided for in the Corps of Artillery commanded by Colonel Porter, without Injury to any Person, and the Appointment will be very acceptable to Colonel Porter, as he wants a good many Officers, and that Gentleman has served in the French Artillery. From the manner of the Marquis's Recommendation, I am persuaded it is not a thing of Course, but that he thinks well of him, and is interested for his Success—should Council

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 475, 479.

† See page 626.

think proper to appoint him to that Corps, he will be a second Lieutenant.

I have the Honor to be,
with great Respect, Sir,
your most obedient Servant,
A^r St CLAIR.*

Directed,

His Excellency John Dickinson Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania.

COMMISSSIONERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Carlisle, Jany 11th, 1783.

Sir,

We rec^d your orders respecting the taxes of our County, and beg leave to inform your Excell^y, that we have urged the Collectors to do their duty by pressing letters, and have sued many of them.

But there is such a scarcity of Cash, owing to the lowness of Markets and our great distance from them, as will make it difficult, if not impossible, to collect the Effective supplies speedily in this County, especially as the people of some of the frontier Townships have been drove by the Savages into Forts to defend themselves and families.

We assure your Excellency, that we are determined to do what is in our power to raise the taxes of our County; but being confident that our situation in those particulars are well known to the Honble Council, we hope for such indulgence in the premises as is in their power to grant.

We also beg leave to recommend to your Excellency the case of the unhappy Peter Dill, who has been long confined in our Goal for his fine to Government, as will appear by a copy of the Records of our Court transmitted to you—As he is unable to pay said fine, we Pray your Excellency would please to remit the Same, that he may be no longer expensive to our County, as there is not the least probability of his being Otherwise discharged.

We are, Sir, your Excell^ys
most Obed. Humble Serv^ts,

JOHN AGNEW, } Commissioners.
SAM. LAIRD.† }

Directed,

His Excell^y John Dickinson, Esquire, President, &c., Philadelphia.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 479.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 493.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO COUNCIL, 1783.

Compt. General's Office,
Philada., Jan'y 11th, 1783.

Sir,

The State money I last recd by order from your Honb'le Board is now all paid away, and further Application makes it necessary to request an order for the further sum of five hundred pounds, for like purposes with the former.

I have the Honor to be, With very Great respect,
Your Excelly's Most Obedt Servant,
JNO. NICHOLSON.*

Directed,—Public Service.
His Excelly The President of Council.

COL. ADAM ORTH TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Lebanon, January 13th, 1783.

Sir,

The officers of several Battalions of Lancaster County Militia, have (in Order to remove difficulties and inconveniences, which will attend the collection of Arrears of Militia Fines, due and payable in consequence of the late Militia Law owing to the irregularity and Numerous mistakes in the accounts of the late Sub Lieutenants, where people are Fined, and not entitled to pay,) requested me to apply to his Excellency the President, and the Hon'ble the Supreme Executive Council, for permission to call the Officers of the Battalion for the purpose of holding a Court of Appeal, or a Court of Enquirey, that the people who are charged with arrears of Militia Fines may attend and shew cause why they should not pay the said Fines, and have the mistakes rectifi'd. There are some very poor Fronteers (who on account of the Savages have allways been on their watch for their own defence) charged with arrears of Militia-Fines. The Officers conceive this to be unjust and distressing to the said people if the Fines must be from them exacted. Therefore I hope tho Hon'ble Council will agree with me and with the said Officers, that such a Court is highly necessary, and will please to give me leave for the same. I have got all the Battalions of Lancaster County under Collection, excepting a few who cannot be put under collection, unless my request be granted.

I am your Excellencies most ob't H'ble Serv't
Lieutenant ADAM ORTH,
Sub L't for Lanr Cotv.

P. S. Your early answer would be very acceptable.
Ad ORTH.

Directed, (Public Service.)
To His Excellency John Dickinson, Esquire, President of the S. E. Council, Philadelphia.
Hon'd ☞ Col. Kucher.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 478.

Jno. Nicholson to Council, 1783.

Compt'r Generals Office,
Philad'a, Jan'y 13th, 1783.

Sir,

A quarters Salary is this day become due to me, I shall therefore consider it a favor if you will please to have an order drawn in my favor for the sum of one hundred and twenty-five pounds, agreeable to the Act of Assembly, of the 13th of April last.*

I am with the highest respect
Sir your Excellency
most Obed't Humble Servant,
JNO. NICHOLSON.

Directed, On Public Service.
To His Excellency John Dickinson, Esq'r, President.

Acc't of J. D. Sergeant, Comm'r in Case of Conn., 1783.

The State to Jona. D. Serjeant for Fees in the Cause with Connect't,

	Dr.
To the Counsel, fee voted &c.,	£250 00 0
To the Expences ℔ Do. 49 Days @ 30s, from Novr. 12, 1782, to Dec'r 30, inclusive,	£73 10 0
	£323 10 0
Cr.	
By Cash ℔ Attorney Genl.†	£30 0 0
	£293 10 0

Indorsed—Jany. 13, 1783.

Account Jos. Reed Commissioner—Case of Connecticut, 1783.

The State of Pennsylvania to J. Reed

	Dr.
To the fee voted by Assembly in the Cause with Connecticut,	250
To the Expences as voted 49 Days at 30s ℔ Day from Nov. 13 to Decem. 31 1782, inclusive.	73 10
	£323 10
Cr.	
By Cash received from Att'y Genl.	£30 00
By Do.‡	15 00
	£278 10

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 479.
† See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 478.
‡ See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 479.

Memorial of Overseers of Poor of N. L. to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

To the Honourable John Dickinson Esq., and the Supreme Executive Counsell of the Common-wealth of Pennsylvania.

The Remonstrance of W. Williams, John Keiter & W. Bush, Nominated by the Court as Oversears of the Poor for the Township of the Northern-Liberties, for the year 1780 & part of the Year 1781 most respectfully sheweth that your Remonstrants immediately applyed themselves to the duties of the office to which they were appointed, by Collecting the tax agreeable to the assessment; a second tax being called for your Remonstrants received a second Book & Warrant dated Feby. 8th 1781 but three weeks before the expiration of our time; said tax was laid in Continental money, & was payable in said money or State at 75 for one; on the Exit of Continental money the Majestrates forbad the Collecting the remainder of the tax in other money than hard, & absolutely refused to reseive what was in hand; they now call for a Settlement of the Books, & demand the ballance in hard money; also the Continentall & State money which has laid in our hands more then a year, by their refusall; Your Remonstrants thus called on by the majestrates to settle in hard money, & the People refusing to pay any money but agreeable to the assessment & Warrant, Humbly Crave advice & Direction of Honorable Counsell & your Remonstrants as in duty shall ever Pray.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS,
WILLIAM BUSH,
JN. KEITER.

Indorsed, Jany. 17 1783.]

Pres. Dickinson to Robt. Morris, 1783.

Sir,

As Council will in a Day or two address The General Assembly on several affairs of Consequence, I should be very glad to be advised if any Plan has been formed by Congress or its Revenue Officers on the Business of supplies, which I for my part can be honored with an opportunity of communicating at present to the Legislature.

I beg Leave to add, that I shall be much obliged at all times, by receiving from you such Intelligence as may tend in any manner to promote the service of the United States, in general or of this State in particular.

I am with the truest Esteem Sir,
your most obedient & hble Servt.
JOHN DICKINSON.

January 18th 1783.
The Honble. Robert Morris Esquire.

Robert Morris to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

Office of Finance, 20 Jany. 1783.

Sir,

I had the Honor to receive your Excellency's favor of the eighteenth, last Evening—In answer, it becomes my Duty to convey to your Excellency the painful Information, that those affairs of Congress which relate to the public Revenue are reduced to the most critical Situation. They are now under Contemplation of that honorable Body, and I shall take the earliest opportunity of communicating to the several States, the Result of their Deliberations.

It is also my Duty Sir, on this Occasion to remind your Excellency, that on the second Day of November, 1781, the Congress required of the State of Pennsylvnnia, one million one hundred and twenty thousand seven hundred and ninety four Dollars, as the quota of that State, for the Expenditures of the year 1782. This sum was to have been paid in equal quarterly Proportions, commencceing on the first Day of April last. I am extremly sorry to mention, that during the whole of the year 1782 there has been received towards the Payment of this quota only the sum of one hundred and seven thousand nine hundred and twenty five Dollars and twenty-four ninetieths being less than a tenth of the sum required.

It is of little avail Sir, that the army, who are the immediate Sufferers, or the People of America, whose national existence is so imminently hazarded, should be told that a Law has been enacted for raising the sum required. Laws not executed, or which from their nature are not to be executed, only substitute Deception in the Place of Denial. Congress can never believe that a State seriously means a Compliance with the Demands made on it, unless the Laws be such that responsible officers be sufficiently impowered to collect the Taxes by certain specified Periods and that the continental Receiver of Taxes be empowered, after such Periods shall have elapsed, to issue Executions against the Persons and Estates of those officers for any Deficiency which may remain of the Sums payable by them respectively.

I have the Honor to be,
with perfect Respect Sir, your Excelleny's,
Most obedient & Humble Servant,
ROB. MORRIS.

His Excellency the President of Pennsylvania.

Petition of W. Wikoff and L. Clark, 1783.

To his Excellency the President and the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

The Memorial of William Wikoff and Lardner Clark, of the City of Philadelphia, Merchants.

Humbly Sheweth,—That your Memorialists have purchased a

quantity of goods, and propose to transport them into the Illinois Country. That your Memorialists have procured certificates of the Legal importation of every Invoice and Package, that was not manufactured in America, and have taken every measure required by the Laws to secure the goods from any seizure between this and Fort Pitt. But notwithstanding those certificates, your Memorialists humbly conceive that there is a risk in meeting with some difficulty on the road from evil disposed persons, and that every precaution is necessary in transporting them from here to Fort Pitt.

Wherefore your Memorialists humbly pray that your Excellency the President and the Honorable Council will grant to them a Passport for their Goods from here to Fort Pitt.

WM. WIKOFF,
LARDNER CLARK.*

Philadelphia Januy. 23d 1783.

Directed,

His Excellency the President and the Honorable Council of the State.

Mons. Marbois to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

Philadelphia, January 24th, 1873.

Sir,

Your Excellency having expressed the desire to have the powder on board the King's frigates, transported into some of the magazines in order to prevent any accidents whilst the Ships lay at the wharfs of this city; I desire you will be so obliging as to direct the Keeper of the magazines to receive 98 Barrels into the said magazines & to appoint a separate place in order to prevent any confusion.

As we have no guard to give for the Security of this ammunition. I wish your Excellency will be Kind enough as to direct the persons charged of that service in behalf of the Un. Statses or Pennsylvania, to admit that powder in the store or magazine for the security of which there is a Guard already appointed,

I am sir, with perfect respect,
your Excellency very humble & obedient servant,
MARBOIS.†

Resolutions of Congress, 1783.

By the United States in Congress assembled.

January 24th, 1783.

Whereas Complaint hath been made to Congres by Percifor Frazier, John Hannum and Joseph Gardner, in behalf of themselves and others, that there are good grounds not only from former trans-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 486.
† See Col. Rec, Vol. XIII., p. 486.

sections, but for other reasons, to believe that great abuses, have been attempted of a pass granted by the Commander in Chief for the protection of cloathing and other necessaries sent from New York in the Ship Amazon for the use of British and German prisoners of War, and that private and unwarrantable advantages are intended by introducing for sale under cover of the said Passports a considerable quantity of British goods and merchandize.

Resolved,

That the assistant Secretary at War be directed to cause the goods imported in the Ship Amazon, and not delivered to the British or German prisoners of War to be forthwith examined and compared with the passport under which they have been imported by proper persons; and that His Excellency the President and the Supreme executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania be requested to nominate one of the said persons.

Resolved, That the Assistant Secretary at War be directed to report to Congress the result of the said inquiry together with the number of the said prisoners, and of the cloathing and other necessaries imported in the said vessel which have been delivered for their use.

(Copy.)

CHARLES THOMSON, Secy.*

ROBERT LEVERS TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Easton, January 25th, 1783.

Sir,

As the season of the year will be soon approaching when, if the Indians should determine to renew their hostilities on the frontiers of this state, your Excellency and the Supreme Executive Council may judge it expedient to call out on the frontiers of this County, a part of the militia, for the defence thereof; for this, and for a more substantial reason, which is that the militia, who have heretofore done their tour of duty on the frontiers, may receive some pay for their past services, I take the liberty as present Lieutenant of the County, to lay a state of the circumstances of the militia, before your Excellency and the Council, as far as has come to my knowledge.

The latter end of June, 1781, I had the honor to be appointed Lieutenant, but am a perfect stranger what pay might have been due to the militia for services, before that time—The Eighth class had been just then called out, and by regular rotation the classes have been since called to the four first companies of the fourth class, which compleated their tour last fall, and from the muster rolls in the eighth, first, second, third, and Fourth classes, some of which have been already transmitted to Council, as they came to

* See Col. Res., Vol. XIII., pp. 483-485.

my hands, it does appear, that a sum not less than ten thousand pounds will be required to discharge the pay due to the militia on account of services, from the time of my appointment, including services performed before, in conducting prisoners &c., for which Col. Rea, my predecessor, had given orders, that certificates should be given by the captains of the respective companies, for so much time as he had allowed to each militia man that had been on such duty, and that it should be allowed as part of the tour, when such militia men should thereafter be called into service on the frontiers But as the services performed for conducting prisoners, &c., specified by certificates, in the time of Samuel Rea, Esquire, were before June, 1781, your Excellency and the Council will please to direct, if the pay for this service is to be in state or in Silver or gold.

I am exceeding sorry that both my accounts and the accounts of the Sub-Lieutenants are not now laid before your Excellency and the Councils Respecting the second and fourth battallion of the militia, which I superintend myself, every method has been taken by me, but I have not as yet been able to obtain from the officers of the militia the returns required by the Comptroller general, which are necessary to make the accounts compleat and intelligible; as soon as I can prepare them, they shall be transmitted. The Sherif of the County is busy in collecting the outstanding fines; but from him I learn the scarcity of money occasions the fines to come in slowly, and he wishes to do it without distress. The most of the fines to be collected in this county will come out of the Second and fourth battallions—The Delinquent fines, according to the lists delivered by me to the sherif, and for which executions issued, taken from the muster rolls and appeals amounted to two thousand and seventy five pounds and four pence, and from the great mistakes in the Captains, on duty on the frontiers, in making out their muster rolls, from information received from the sherif, scarce half the above sum can be rightfully demanded, as many were upon duty, as is said, who are not included in the muster rolls, and others will produce certificates from their officers, whereby they expect to be exempted from fine, and but few of the Fines have as yet been collected. The First, third, fifth and sixth battallions, which are superintended by the Sub-Lieutenants, who as yet have delivered no other accounts to me, than what I transmitted to the supreme executive councils last summer and fall, will not, from what then appeared to me, produce an amount of fines equal to five hundred pounds. From whence it will appear that the fines of this county will fall short of reaching to pay the militia, who have done duty on the frontiers, during my Lieutenancy only about eight thousand pounds, and as the militia do murmur much for want of pay, and complain, that they are disabled from paying their taxes, for want of money; and it being highly probable, that if the militia should be called in future, to serve on the frontier, the whole eight classes, as I am informed, having served without receiving any pay, there

will be great difficulty to prevail on any to turn out, how great soever the exigency may be, I have therefore thought it my necessary duty to point out this deficiency to your Excellency and the council.

In the course of last year, there having been great trespasses & waste committed by divers persons, upon vacant and unappropriated Lands, on the North side of the blue mountains, in this county, by cutting down Pine timber, I esteemed it my duty, from the offices of public trust I held, to lay the same before the Supreme Executive Council, and there being still great waste committed, and great destruction of timber still prevailing on vacant and unappropriated lands, both for the use of boards and shingles, and that not particularly for the neighbouring inhabitants, but for sale far and wide, whereby bodies of lands, which in time might be improved, will be rendered totally unserviceable, I still conceive it to be my duty to inform the supreme executive council thereof, For there are many places, which tho' they might not make a farm, would handsomely suit a crafsman, and the destruction of the timber thereby becomes a public injury, and the cutting of large quantities of White Pine in the great swamp is very injurious; for it is not to be doubted a great part thereof will in time be settled; and means hereafter found to bring that kind of timber down the Leheigh to great public advantage, whereas there is now a great abuse of timber there because many trees are cut down, which are found to be unfit for the purpose of Shingles, and cannot at that distance be put to any good use, and therefore wholly lost. These considerations have lead me to presume to lay this before your excellency in council and more especially as in March, 1780, it appeared to be the Judgement of the Legislature, there should be a stop put to these kind of trespasses; for there was a law passed, among other purposes, to prevent trespasses and waste from being committed upon vacant and unappropriated lands, which law continued, as I apprehend, only for nine months, and from thence to the end of the next session of assembly.

Your Excellency, who knows me well, will I am persuaded be convinced, that it is from the integrity of my heart, I have given this information.

Col. Stephen Balliet, on the twentieth of December last, by writing, declined for the future furnishing the militia and Rangers any longer with provisions; therefore agreeable to an order of the supreme executive council, which I had received, dated the twenty-fourth of October last, I have contracted with Mr. John Gregory, who has undertaken to supply Capt. Philip Shrawders ranging company, with provisions, &c., at the price heretofore allowed to Col. Balliet.

I am, Sir,
your excellency's most obedient servant,
ROBERT LEVERS.

His Excellency John Dickinson Esquire.,

JOSEPH ROBERTS TO COUNCIL, 1783.

To the honorable the President & Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Petition of Joseph Roberts of the Township of Montgomery in the County of Philadelphia, Cordwainer,

Humbly sheweth,

That your Petitioner, by a late Prosecution in the Court of Oyer & Terminer, has been adjudged to the Payment of an Hundred & fifty Pounds, for giving some Directions concerning their Road to a few Travelers asking for them at his Door.

That the said Travellers were absolute Strangers to your Petitioner, and neither from their Habit or Discourse, gave him any Reason to suspect they were British Soldiers.

That your Petitioner was altogether ignorant, at this Time, of any Act of Assembly against giving Food, or information of their Road, to strangers requesting them; and so far from knowing that he thereby incurred a fine, that he believed he was only performing a common Act of Hospitality.

That your Petitioner is but a young Man, & except his Trade and Industry, has little in the world to support a Wife & five Children, who must, with himself be reduced to great Distress, if not Ruin, should the whole of the above sum be rigorously exacted from him,

That your Petitioner, therefore humbly prays, that in Consideration of the Hardship of his case, & that he has not been a wilful Offender against the Law, the Honorable the President & Council, will be pleased to grant such Relief in the Premises, by an Abatement of the said Fine, as they in their Wisdom may judge proper.

JOSEPH ROBERTS.*

Montgomery, Jan'y 27th, 1783.

Indorsed,

Read in Council Feb'y 20, 1783—& rejected.

T. Matlack, Sec'y.

We the Subscribers, Neighbours & Acquaintance of Joseph Roberts, hereby certify that he is a sober industrious young Man of good Character among us; and that, as we have no Doubt of the

* See Col. Rec., Vol, XIII., p. 511, 535.

Truth of the several Allegations contained in the annexed Petition, we do very freely join in the Prayer of it.

Montgomery, January 24th 1783.

Hezekiah Williams,	Eliza Fergusson,
Ed. Bartholmew,	Robert Loller, surveyor,
Cha's Moore, M. D.,	Seth Quee, Esqr.,
Evan Jones,	William Roberts,
Mord. Moore,	David Evans,
Wm. McClean,	Geo. Maris,
Arch'd McClean, Surg'n,	Caleb Foulke,
1st Batt'n P. C. M.	Samuel Wheeler,
William Mullin.	Zebulun Potts, Esqr.
Charles Stedman.	

I am acquainted with Joseph Roberts and fully believe what he says Respecting his conduct to these people.

Tho. Franklin.*

Respublica, v. Joseph Roberts. } 1 Indictment.

Prot.	£4	5	6		
Attorney Genl.,	1	16	0		
Sheriff,	1	9	0		
Jury,		16	0		
Cryer,		1	6		
				8	8
Witnesses attendance,					
Noah Lee 7 days,				14	
James Burt ditto,				14	
Ebenezer Archibald, do.,				14	
				10	10 0
					3 Indictm^ts
				31	10 0
Sheriff for mileage				7	
				31	17 0
Serv's,				16	6
				£32	13 6

* See page 764.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Compt^r General's Office,
Philad^a, Jan'y 29th, 1783.

Sir,

I beg leave to request an order for the Sum of five hundred pounds State money for paying one third of the Officers & soldiers Depreciation of pay. The last order you were pleased to give has been rec^d and the money expended.

I have the Honor to be
with the highest respect,
your Excell'y^s
most Obed^t humble servant,
JN^o NICHOLSON.

Directed,
His Excellency, the President, in Council.

STATE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE, 1783.

31st Jan'y, 1783.

Pennsylvania Line, Horse Artillery, Infantry.	Serj^t Majors.	Q^r Master Serjeant.	Drum Majors.	Fife Majors.	Serjeants.	Drum^rs & Fifers.	Music.	Rank & File.	Total.
Genl. Green's Army,	1	1	1	1	30	15		592	641
Artillery Do.,					7	4		78	89
Fort Pitt,	1	1		1	2	7		106	118
Genl. Hazen's Regt.,	1	1			9	1		60	72
His Excellency, Gen. Washington's Guards,								22	22
Col. Richd Butler's Detachment at Lancaster, &c.,	3	3	4	2	32	38	7	512	601
Detachment at Philadelphia,					10	6		196	212
Recruits inlisted in this month,								80	80
Total.	6	6	5	4	90	71	7	1646	1835

2087
1835

Total, 252 wanting to compleat.

3 Regiments of Infantry, at 512 Rank & file, each,	1536	
3 Do. 27 Serjts, each,	81	
3 Do. 18 Drums & fifers, each,	54	
3 Do. Serjt. Major, Qr. Mr Serjt, Drum Major, fife Major, each,	12	
Total,	1683,	three Regts of Infantry.
4 Companies of Artillery, 65 Non Commision & privates, each,	260	
4 Do., 2 Drums, 2 fifers, each,	8	
Serjt Major, Qr Master Serjt, Drum Major, Fife Major, each,	4	
Total,	272,	four Companies of Artillery.
2 Troops of Horse, 64 Non Commission & privates each Troop,	128	
Serjt Major, Qr Master Serjt, 2 Trumpeters,	4	
	132,	two Troops of Horse.

Infantry,	1683
Artillery,	272
Horse,	132
Total,	2087

N. B. The Companies of Artificers are Compleat.

RICHd HUMPTON, Col. 2d P. Regt.

List of Purchases of City Lots, no part of which has been paid, 1783.

Purchasers names.	Date of purchase.	Amount of Do.
Ephriam Blaine,	1781, July 5th,	£1033
Robert Cooks,	" Do. "	1083
William Milnor,	" Aug. 23d,	159
William Sheaff,	" Oct. 18th,	1230
John Clendenin,	" Do. "	88
Samuel M. Brown,	" Decem. 17th,	134
William Grinding,	1782, May 30th,	375
Stacey Hepburn,	" Do. "	165

Purchasers in Arrears for part of payment.

	Day of payment.	Remains due.		
George Henry,	1781, July 26th,	£432	10	4
John Mitchell,	1782, Feb. 23d,	111	0	2
Lewis Grant,	" March 3d,	64	12	4
Col. Humpton,	" " 6th,	99	19	
John Mitchell,	" " 13th,	116	5	3
Blair M'Clenachan,	" " Do.	52	3	6
Philip Moore,	" April 4th,	229	17	9
James Loughead,	" " 25th,	9	0	10
John Donaldson,	" May 1st,	44	3	3
Do.	" " 8th,	41	5	7
Dunlap & Budden,	" Do. "	184	14	10
Joseph Dean,	" " 29th,	143	8	5
John Taylor,	" Do. "	69	3	5
Thomas Bradford,	" June 17th,	145	8	6
Davis & Patton,	" Do. "	148	11	10
George Bickham,	" Do. "	233	11	1
John Barker,	" July 31st,	213	14	9
Peter Stretch,	" Do. "	66	5	
Solomon Myers Cohen,	" Oct. 11th,	14	19	9
Anthony Cuthbert,	" Do. "	222	4	6
Ephraim Blaine,	" Do. "	117	8	3

January 31st, 1783.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE, Sec'y.

The sums remaining due as above set down are computed in paper money. If paid in Specie the Interest must be added.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. OF COUNCIL, 1783.

Comp. General's office, Philada., Feb. 4th, 1783.

Sir,

The money which I received in consequence of the last order is expended, and further demands make it necessary to apply for more; I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will be pleased to have an order drawn in my favor for five hundred pounds, state money, for paying off 1d part of depreciation Certificates on account.

I have the honor to be,

With the highest respect,

Your Excellency's most obed't Servant,

JNO. NICHOLSON.

Directed,

His Excellency, The president and Council.

Ensign William Cooper to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

His Excellency, the President & Council.

Gentlemen, having had the Honor of being appointed an officer to a Company of Rangers to be raised in Westmoreland County, for the defence of the same, think it is duty to represent to your Honors, the State and condition of said Corps. Being well informed that the said Company is not at present on an equal footing with the other Companies, both in respect of Pay and Bounty, would earnestly solicit that they would receive the deficiencies of the same, which he humbly conceives to be their just right.

By the unfortunate affair of the Enemy burning Hannahstown the officers of said Company lost their Clothing. And agreeable to their instructions for raising said Company, they conceive themselves intitled to a suit each from the Public.

Well knowing your good disposition towards your officers in General, makes no doubt but your Honors will take the same into consideration, and grant us such relief as your Wisdom & Justice will think meet.

W. COOPER,
Ensign Westmoreland Company Rangers.

Philada., Feb. 5th, 1783.

Directed, His Excellency, the President & Council.

Extract of Letter from Wm. Bradford, Junr., 1783,

Arch Streets, Feb. 7, 1783.

Sir,

I would also inform your Excellency & the Council that the Cause in which Mr. Wilcocks was plaintif, & Mr. Geo. Henry the defendt. respecting the seizure of some salt in the year 1779, was lately tried & determined in favour of the plantiff. The State, who was the real defendant, retained Mr. Ingersol very early in this Cause. After mentioning to Council that the trial lasted a day & a half, & involved in it the discussion of several new & difficult points of Law, I conceive it my duty to inform them, that Mr. Ingersol has received no compensation for his Service except a small retaining fee advanced to him at the Commencement of the suit.

The City Lotts purchased by Mr. Coxe concerning which your Excellency requested information are situated on fifth street, between Walnut & Spruce Streets, opposite to the Roman Catholic burial Ground.

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency most obed. & very hum Servt.
WM. BRADFORD Jun.,*

Directed,—His Excellency John Dickinson Esq., President. &c.

* See Vol. VII.

C. J. McKean to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

Sir,

I have considered the nature of the information received concerning the voyage to New York by Captain Canby last Summer, and apprehend the whole transaction may be fully proved if Mr. Robert Logan has permission to go into New York. I must therefore request your Excellency to grant him a safe conduct or Passport to go into New York, especially with a view to this affair, but also from an expectation that other discoveries of the same nature may be made.

I am Sir,
with great regard your Excellency's,
most obedient humble servant,
THO^s. McKEAN

Philadelphia, Feb. 7th, 1783.

Directed,

His Excellency John Dickinson Esquire, President &c., of Pennsylvania.

Rev. Peter Miller to Sec'y Matlack, 1783.

Sir,

Having lately been solicited by some Menists who were fined for not apprehending British Deserters, to intercede for them, I have ventured to lay their Case before His Excellency, your President. Since that Time I have heard that their Fine was considerably lessened, which was an Act worthy of your honourable Council, and must needs draw upon you the Affection of the good People of the State. The Bearer hereof, Henry Martin, and another Christian Weaver, who intend at present to address themselves to your honourable Board, have also sent down their Petition, attested by sundry worthy Freeholders; but have hitherto miscarried in their humble Expectation. As they are equally entangled with the others in the Guilt, it is not probable that their Petition should have been rejected, at the same Time the Council hath extended it's Mercy over the others. And therefore, at their Desire, I took the Freedom to recommend their Case, by Means of your Person, to his Excellency and the Council. If you think it proper to lay this Letter before the President, I desire you to mention my humble Respects to Him and Family.

I humbly am of Opinion that all Rulers of Governments should be invested with Power, to mitigate the Rigour of the Law by the Interposition of Mercy, when necessary; at least we find thereof many remarkable instances in the Jewish Dispensation. And if

this People must pay so great a Fine, it is certain that they will be ruined, and that for no other Crime but neglect of Duty in Matters which they were not permitted to do by their Principles and Conscience. You had been allways considered as an accomplished Politician; and therefore I propose to you the most perfect Pattern of sound Policy, of a Woman, which was employed by Joab to intercede before King David for Absalom, 2 Sam., 14, 11, when she pray'd that the King would not suffer to multiply in the Country the Revengers of Blood, or as we say now, the Informers; for thereby the Evil is more increased, than lessened. I have no more to add, but that, besides my humble Respect to you, I am,

Sir, your humble Servant,

PETER MILLER.

Ephrata, the 9th of Feb., 1783.
Read in Council, Feb. 18, 1783. T. M.

Directed,

Timothe Matlack, Esquire, Philadelphia.

Gen. St. Clair to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

Philadelphia February 10th, 1783.

Sir,

I have the Honor to enclose an arrangement of the fourth Regiment of light Dragoons and Colonel Moylans Return. The Return did not come to my Hands untill this Day, for want of which, and some Knowledge of the Intentions of Major Fauntleray the arrangement has been delayed, it must however be supposed to have taken place upon the first of January, and I have dated it accordingly—that Corps will consist of two Troops one mounted and one dismounted.

Major Fauntleray has been long absent—in what Manner, neither the Colonel nor officer here can give me any account and it is even doubtful of whether he has not resigned. Upwards of two Months ago, however, I wrote to him requiring him immediately to join the Corps or signify his having quitted the Service—The Letter was sent by Lieut. Colonel Temple, and I have no doubt got soon to his Hands, but it has produced neither the one nor the other. If he was in Service on the first of January he is, of course, continued in the Command of the two Troops, but I beg leave to submit it, whether, after so great a Neglect at least, if not contempt, the office should not be considered as vacant, and the next officers brought up in succession, and their Commissions dated on the second of that Month. I am fully of Opinion he will never join the Corps, from the Certainty he must have his conduct will not be overlooked in this recent Instance, as well as his having left it on a former Occasion, contrary to my express orders in writing, which I have had no Opportunity to take notice of. Should the Sentiments of Council

coincide with mine in this Matter, it will be necessary that the appointments be transmitted by them to the War Office in order to the issuing Commissions.

I have the Honor to be,
with great Respect Sir,
your most obedient Servant,
AR. ST CLAIR.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Comptroller General's Office,
Philad^a, Feb'y 12th, 1783.

Sir,

I beg leave to request That an order may be drawn upon the Treasurer in my favor for five hundred pounds, State money, for paying one third of Depreciation Certificates, for which I will Account.

I have the Honor to be,
With very Great respect,
Your Excell'ys Most Obed^t Servant,
JN^o NICHOLSON.

Directed,
His Excell'y The presid. of Penn^a.

JOHN HANNUM TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

February 14th, 1783.

Sir,

I take the liberty to inform you, that, pursuant to the Direction of council, the agents for Confiscated Estates in Chester County, one of whom I then was, sold part of hog Island, said To be the property of Joseph Galloway, Esqr—Attainted of high Treason,—to Col^o Joshua North and Others, and Rec'd in full Payment the Amount in Officers' and Soldiers' Certificates, Agreeable to the laws of this Commonwealth; but the Claim of Col^o Thomas Proctor and Others on said Island have prevented the purchasers from Obtaining their Titles; and as they are Very uneasy Concerning the same, And Repeatedly applying to me on that Account, would be glad Council will be pleased to Decide on the premises, and Either grant Titles to the purchasers, or Otherwise determine The matter, so as to prevent me from any Further trouble.

I Remain, with Due Respect,
your Excellency's most Ob^t Hum^l Ser^t,
JN^o HANNUM.

Directed,—His Excellency John Dickinson, Esqr, President of the Supreme Executive Council.

Indorsed,—"Read in Council Feb'y 15, 1783. Ordered to lie on the Table.

T. M., Sec'y."

Resolutions of Assembly—Wyoming, 1783.

State of Pennsylvania.
In General Assembly,

Thursday, February 20, 1783, A. M.

The Report of the Committee respecting the decision of the Connecticut Claim, was read the second time, and adopted as follows, viz. :—

The Committee appointed January 28 to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, respecting the decision of the Connecticut Claim, and to devise such measures as may promote the happiness and interest of all the good people of this State—having conferred with the Supreme Executive Council, beg leave to report, as the joint opinion of that Board, and of your Committee.

That the persons now settled at or near Wioming, Yielding due obedience to the Laws, are undoubtedly intitled, in common with other Citizens of the State, to the protection and the benefits of civil Government.

That the new and extraordinary circumstances in which they stand, renders it expedient for the House to take proper measures therein, without loss of time.

And they having declared the appeal which they have made to this House their only resource, it becomes the dignity of this House to be very circumspect in its conduct toward them, and to act upon the best information.

Therefore Resolved, That Commissioners be appointed to make full enquiry into their cases respectfully, and report to the House.

That in order to make the enquiry effectual, the Commissioners be authorized to send for persons, records and papers.

That they be instructed to confer with all or any of the Claimants under Pennsylvania, of any Lands now in the possession of, or claimed under the State of Connecticut, by persons now being actual Settlers, as well as with the said Settlers, or any of them; and to encourage as much as possible, reasonable and friendly compromises between the parties claiming; and where this cannot be done, to consider of and report such plans of accommodation, as may be most adviseable for accomplishing an equitable and final adjustment of all differences.

That as soon as may be, after the Commissioners shall report, An Act be passed, providing fully for the cases of the Inhabitants of the said County, more especially for extending to them the Advantages of civil Government—For authorizing and directing the choice of Justices of the peace—For appointing places of holding the annual General Elections—For giving time for entering their Slaves, if any, according to the Spirit of the Act for the gradual abolition of Slavery—For consigning to Oblivion all tumults and breaches of the peace. by whatever name they may be called, which have arisen out of the controversy between the Colony or State of Connecticut and

the said settlers on the one part, and the province or State of Pennsylvania and the Inhabitants thereof, or any part of them, on the other part—And for such other purposes as Circumstances may appear to require.

That an act be immediatly passed for staying proceedings at Law, during the said enquiry, against any of the said Settlers, for dispossessing any of them by writ of Ejectment, or otherwise, untill this House shall decide upon the report so to be made by the said Commissioners.

And that as the Guard of Continental Troops which has been stationed at Wyoming, is about to be withdrawn, it is necessary for the protection of the said settlement against the savages, to replace the Guard immediately with the two Companies of Rangers commanded by Captains Robinson and Shrauder

On Motion,

Ordered, that Mr. Rush, Mr. Whitehill and Mr. Clymer prepare and bring in a Bill for staying proceedings at Law, against any of the settlers in the above mentioned Tract of Country, during the enquiry to be made by the commissioners, as above said, until the House shall decide upon the report to be made by the said Commissioners.

Resolved,

That the Commissioners be appointed, any two of whom shall have full power to act, agreeable to the purposes expressed in the foregoing report.

Resolved,

The pay of each of the Commissioners, shall be three Dollars ℔ diem, including their Expences.

Resolved,

That on Tusday next the House will appoint said Commissioners, and that the nomination for them take place before that day.

Tuesday, Febuary 25, 1783, A. M.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the House went into the choice of three Commissioners to fulfill the duties enjoined in the Report of the Committee adopted Febuary 20, respecting the settlers at Wyoming, when the following persons were elected by ballot (viz,) William Montgomery, Moses McClean, & Joseph Montgomery, Esquires.

Extract from the Minutes,

PETER Z. LLOYD,

Clerk of General Assembly.

Resolutions of Congress, 1783.

By the United States in Congress Assembled Feby. 20, 1783.

The assistant Secretary at War having reported to Congress the result of his enquiry respecting the goods imported in the Ship Amazon for the use of British and German prisoners of war, accompanied with a report of the Commissioners appointed pursuant to the resolutions of the 24 of Jany. last.

Resolved, That it does not appear to Congress that any abuse has been made of the passport granted by the Commander in Chief for the protection of Cloathing and other necessaries sent from New York in the Ship Amazon for the use of the British and German prisoners of war.

Resolved, That the goods imported in the said Ship Amazon and contained in the return laid before Congress by the Assistant Secretary at war are fully covered and protected by the said passport and ought to be sent with all expedition and without any let or hindrance to the prisoners for whose use they were designed.

CHA. THOMSON, Secy.*

Ezekiel Robins to Pres. Dickinson, 1783.

New York, February 20th, 1783.

Sir,

I had the pleasure of writing to you by Captn Kemp in which I Informed you my proceedings respecting the Marine Prisoners belonging to your State, since which time I have furnished them with additional Supplies such as Shirts, Stockings, and some blankets and Shoes, the Sick on board the Hospital Ships, are supplied with Tea and Sugar and other Necessaries as the Necessity of their case requires, the bread is delivered them weekly at the rate of four pounds ℔ Man, the potatoes are distributed in weekly allowances, the supplies which they have received has been the only means of the preservation of their lives.

The prison Ships are perfect Slaughter Houses; since the commencement of this Year, near three hundred are on the Dead list, they bury some times from Six to Eight a Day, it is Impossible for any unless a Spectator to form an Idea of their distressed and horrid Situation. Samuel Shoemaker Esqr., formerly of your place, has exerted himself for their relief by frequent applications to the Admiral by which means numbers have been liberated and sent Home so at the present their don't remain of Pennsylvania Prisoners to exceed fifty—am in hopes their continuation on board the Prison Ships will not be of a long duration.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 512.

Mr. Mackay who has been a prisoner sometime will deliver your Excellency this, and who can Inform you every particular, respecting their situation.

I am with due regard and Esteem,
your very humble Servant
EZEKIEL ROBINS,

His Excellency John Dickinson Esqr., President of the State of Pennsylvania.

W. JACKSON, ASSIS'T SEC'Y OF WAR, TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

War-Office, February 21st, 1783.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to enclose to you the resolve of Congress which has been consequent on the report of the Gentlemen, who were appointed by your honorable Council and the Assistant Secretary at War, to inspect the British supplies which have been seized in Chester-County.

I beg leave to request—if the Supreme Executive Council are of opinion that any instruction from them will facilitate the restitution of the supplies conformably to the resolve of Congress—that your Excellency will be pleased to favor me with the decision of Council, as soon as may be convenient.

I have the honor to be,
with profound respect,
Your Excellency's
most obedient Servant,
W. JACKSON.

His Excellency President Dickinson.

PRES. OF CONGRESS TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

(Circular.)

Philadelphia, 24 Feb., 1783.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a resolution of Congress, founded on reasons of the utmost importance to the United States. I need not add arguments to enforce a measure, which must appear, on first blush, of absolute necessity, especially when, from the critical state of our Affairs, all the Wisdom of the States is required.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect, Sir
your Excellency's Obedt and very humble Serv.,
ELIAS BOUDINOT.

His Excellency The President, &c. of Pennsr.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Compt^r General's Office,

Philad^a, Feb'y 24th, 1783.

Sir,

I beg leave to Report, That I have examined the inclosed Certificates (5 in number) and find that they have been Issued by Fred'k Antes, Esqr., (appointed to purchase provisions) to John & Joseph Clarke for sundries purchased and provided by them for the use of the Army to the amount of thirty one thousand eight hundred and eighteen doll^rs Cont^l money, & four hundred and fifty one and three ninetieths of a doll^r State money, for the payment of which s^d Clarke now applies. As it appears that Col^o Antes must have his account settled before the sum due to Col^o Clarke can be precisely ascertained, with due submission I conceive that whatever sum may be now paid to said Clarke should be charged to his account untill a conclusive settlement can be made, and that in the mean time these Certificates be deposited in this office. The sum of Eighty pounds specie must be within the amount of the debt.

I have the honor to be

with very great respect,

your Excell^ys Obed^t Servt,

JN^o NICHOLSON.

Directed,

His Excell'y, John Dickinson, Esqr., Presid^t.

JOHN NICHOLSON TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Compt^r General's Office,

Philad^a, Feb'y 25th, 1783.

Sir,

I beg leave to request That an order may be drawn on the Treasurer in my favor for five hundred pounds State money, for paying depreciation agreeable to Act of Assembly, for which I will account. The sum I last rec^d is all disbursed.

I have the Honor to be with respect,

your Excell^ys Obed^t Humble servant,

JN^o NICHOLSON.

Directed,

His Excell'y, the President of Penna., present.

Petition of Israel Doan, 1783.

To the President and Members of the Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Humble Petition of Israel Doan, of the County of Bucks, Sheweth.

That your Petitioner, a Languishing prisoner in Newtown Goal, has been in Confinement Ever since the Beginning of August last, and his Family being in a Suffering Condition, none but women and Children at home Capable of Providing for them. There has been much Sickness in his family since his Confinement, one of his Daughters being subject to very bad fitts from her Infancy, and himself often unwell in his Confinement, being a weakly person, and pretty much in years, and almost twenty miles from home, and being in low Circumstances and very difficult for his family to support him.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that you would take his Distressed Condition into your Consideration and Release him from Confinement and forgive him the fine which the Court has Sentenced him to pay, as he is not able to pay it, and your Petitioner shall ever pray.

ISRAEL DOAN.*

When Sentence was passed upon me I understood that my Imprisonment was to be but 6 months, but now the Goalor says it is 6 months more, which I find myself unable to go through, being often unwell.

Indorsed,

1783, February 26th, Petition of Israel Doan.
Read in Council, Feb'y 26, 1783.
Dismissed.

T. M.

State of the Pennsylvania Line, 1783.

Southern Army.—	Artillery,	100	
	Serjeants,	62	
	Musick,	30	
	R. & File,	625	
	{ Mounted Dragoons, not Included.		817
Fort Pitt.—	Artillery,	30	
	Serjeants,	20	
	R. & File,	106	156
	{ Artificers not Included in the line, 6.		

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 514.

Lancaster, York, Carlisle & Reading.—	Serjeants,	47	
	Musick,	38	
	R. & File,	550	635
	Mounted Dragoons not Included, 30.		
Philada.—	Including Serjeants, &c,	200	200
		Total,	1808
Deduct 4 Comp^s of Artillery at 55 men Each, 220, Wanting to compleat to the full quota, 10 men each Comp^y, 40.			220
			1588
Deduct 1 Troop Dismounted Dragoons, 55 men, Wanting to compleat the full quota, 10 men,			55
			1533
Three Reg^ts Infantry, 27 Comp^ys, 55 Each,			1485
Wanting to compleat each Comp^y, agreeable to Resolve of Congress, Octr 3d, 1780, 10 men; and agreeable to a resolve of 21st Oct^r, 1780,—13 men; but a late Resolve admits 500 men to be Considered as a Reg^t.			
		Balance undivided,	48

The following not included in the above Number, For which the State of Pennsa. are Intitled to Credit—

General Hazen's,	150	
General's Guards,	15	
Deliv^d in Virginia—Col. Armand's Legion,	15	
Do. from the line—Sappers & Miners,	20	
State Rangers for the War,	120	320
Fit for Service in the Invalid Corps,		

I have taken the above from the actual returns & best Information, & believe it to be a very nigh state of the Troops of the line & State.

RICH^d BUTLER, Col.

Sent to the Sec'y at War, March 1, 1783.

On the Copy of this return the following note was endorsed by order of the Council, Viz^t:

That the Rangers above mentioned being State troops, ought not to have been returned as of the line of Pennsa., Also That there are two hundred men not mentioned in the return, for which the State are entitled to credit—which Major Genl. St Clair will explain to the Sec'y at War.

T. M.

Indorsed,

Read in Council, and Copy forwarded to the War Office.

Council to Capt. Philip Shrawder, 1783.

In Council, Philadelphia, March 4th, 1783.

Gentlemen,

As the Continental troops have lately been withdrawn from Wyoming, it is by the General Assembly thought necessary for the protection of the settlements against the savages to replace the Guard immediately, with the two Companies of rangers commanded by you:

You will therefore each of you directly march with your respective companies to that Fort and take every proper measure for maintaining the post there, and for protecting the settlements.

We have wrote to John Weitzle, Esquire, directing him to deliver the provisions contracted for, *at Wyoming*, instead of delivering them at Fort Rice, or at Captain Gray's, in Buffaloe Valley, as was at first intended. We would have you to give such assistance to Mr Weitzle as may render this alteration agreeable to him.

As we confide very much in your prudence, We trust that your conduct will enforce our wishes on a point of great importance. It is our earnest desire that the inhabitants settled at or near Wyoming should be in all respects treated with kindness. This we know to be the desire also of the Legislature, it being the unanimous sense of both Branches of the Government, that all differences should be equitably and finally adjusted.

We therefore expect that you will separately and together employ your best exertions to prevent any injury being done to the inhabitants before mentioned, and even any quarrels being entered into with them by the Officers and Soldiers under your Command, and that you may convince them by your care and attention to them that they are regarded as fellow Citizens, whose welfare and happiness you sincerely and affectionately desire to promote.

I am, Gentlemen,
your obedient and very humble servant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

Council having seen your Letter to the Honourable Mr. Van Campen, approve your Intention of taking a month's or six weeks' provision with you.

We have sent you forty Knapsacks, nine Camp kettles, three wood axes. The other articles could not be now sent. We hope the utmost Expedition will be used by you for taking possession of the Fort before mentioned.

Directed,

On publick service.

Captain Philip Schrawder, of the Ranging Company, Northampton County.

Resolution of General Assembly, 1783.

State of Pennsylvania, In General Assembly.

Wednesday, March 5, 1783, A. M.

The Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Comptroller General on the subject of his letter dated December 3, 1782, and also to examine the Laws respecting the duties of the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, was read the second time.

Whereupon, the House resumed the consideration of the motion, postponed December 4, 1782, relative to the conduct of the said Secretary, and came to the following resolution.

Whereas, it is the indispensable duty of this House, to discountenance, as far as lies in their power, all public defaulters; and it appearing to this House that the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council hath neglected to keep accounts of money received by him on behalf of the public, and also to pay the same into the treasury, according to Law.

Resolved unanimously, that the said Secretary is unworthy of public trust or confidence.

Extract from the minutes,

PETER Z. LLOYD,

Clerk of the General Assembly.*

Memorial of Andrew Long, 1783.

His Excellency the President and the Hon'ble Councill of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Memorial of Andrew Long Humbly sheweth. That he Petitioned the House of Assembly on the Twelfth of September One thousand seven Hundred & Eighty that said Petition was referred to the Honorable Council the Sixteenth day of said Month, that y^r memorialist never received any Resolution of Councill upon it.

He humbly requests your Honorable Board will take the Premi-

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 537, 538, 539.

ses under their consideration and allow him such compensation as they shall think Just and Lawfull.

Your Memorialist as in Duty bound will &c., &c.

ANDREW LONG.*

5th March, 1783.

Indorsed,

Read in Council the 6th March, 1783. Ordered that the same be referred to the Comptroller General, to examine the settlement of the Memoralist account & compare the same with the laws under which he acted, and report,

James Trimble for T'y Matlack, Secy.

After June 9th this was handed to this office to lie. T. M.

The within was deferred untill Mr. Long could be Conferred with, he has been at the office, and I have shown him that the Accounts of the other officers Appointed under that act, have been settled upon the same principle, whereupon he Acquiesced in the former settlement altho he conceived the compensation for his services to be Inadequate.

JOHN NICHOLSON.

Compt^r Generals Office,
May 13th 1783.

PRES. DICKINSON TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS, 1783.

In Council,
P^a, March 6th, 1783.

Gentlemen,

We have lately had opportunities of being particularly informed of the deplorable condition of American Marine Prisoners in the Prison & Hospital Ships at New York. They are perishing daily from the cruel Treatment they receive; tho' many lives might be saved, if some proper provision could be made for them by their Country. This has been the case with Respect to the Marine Prisoners of this State, we being fully assured upon undoubted Intelligence, that most of them have been saved by some supplies we sent them at the Beginning of the winter.

Humanity induces us to write to you on this subject, and we desire that you may immediately communicate the Contents of this Letter to Congress, that such measures may be adopted, as that Honorable Body shall judge expedient.

I am Gentlemen &c^a,

J. D.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 524.

Petition of Joseph Roberts, 1783.

To the Honorable the President & Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

The petition of Joseph Roberts, of the Township of Montgomery, in the County of Philadelphia, Cordwainer—

Humbly Sheweth,

That your petitioner by a late prosecution in the Court of Oyer & Terminer, has been adjudged to the payment of a Fine of one hundred and fifty Pounds, for giving some Directions concerning their Road to a few Travellers asking for them at his Door.

That the said Travellers were absolute Strangers to your petitioner, & neither from their habit or discourse gave him any reason to suspect they were British Soldiers.

That your petitioner is but a young Man, & except his Trade and Industry, has little else in the World to support a Wife and five Children, who must, with himself, be reduced to great distress, if not ruin, should the above Sum be rigorously exacted from him.

That your petitioner humbly prays, that the President and this honorable Board, in consideration of the hardship of his Case, and that he has not been a wilful Offender against the Law, will be pleased to grant him such relief in the premises, as you in your Wisdom may judge proper.

JOSEPH ROBERTS.*

Montgomery, March 7th, 1783.

We, the Subscribers, from good information and our own knowledge of the petitioner, Joseph Roberts, hereby Certify, that he is a Sober, Industrious young Man, of good Character; and as we have no doubt of the Truth contained in the annexed Petition, We do freely join in the prayer thereof.

Chas Moore, M. D.,	Geo. Meade,
Hez. Williams,	Richd Dennis,
Mordc Moore,	Jos. Bullock,
Evan Jones,	Edwd Milner,
John Evans,	Wm Hollinshead,
George Maris,	Thos Tillyer,
Wm McClean,	Andw Epple,
Robert Loller,	Will. Fisher, junr.,
Seth Quee,	James Carter,
Arcd McClean,	Leeson Simmons,
Thos Franklin,	

* See Col. Rec., Vol, XIII., pp. 511, 535, and p. 745 of this Vol.

From the representation given us, & a Knowledge of Sundry Gentlemen in his Neighbourhood who have sign'd above, we are induced to Join in the above request.

Chas Massey,	Peter Thomson,
Robert Paul,	John Wharton,
Thomas Moore,	Nathl Falconer,
John Bayard,	Edward Bartholomew.
Clement Biddle,	

I am informed from credible authority, that Joseph Roberts, previous to the offence for which he is convicted, sustained the character of a sober, industrious & peaceable citizen, no ways inimical to the Liberties of America: & as he is in circumstance far from affluents & has a large and growing family, I conceive that the interests of Justice do not require a severe exaction of the fine, & therefore I would recommend him to the indulgence of his Excellency the president & the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council.

WM. BRADFORD, Junr.

Philad^a, March 10th, 1783.

From my researches into the estate & Character of Joseph Roberts I believe he is in but slender circumstances, being a cordwainer by trade, and having a wife and five small children to maintain by his industry; that he has heretofore supported the character of a quiet & inoffensive man; and that he has but little knowledge of public affairs, and is but a very weak Politician. Upon the whole, I conceive him an object of tenderness, and that he merits the indulgence of Government, and therefore beg leave to recommend him to the favor of His Excellency the President and the Honorable Council.

THO. M'KEAN.

Philadelphia, March 17, 1783.

The Estimates of the Damages in Northampton County, 1783.

The Estimates of the Damages sustained by the Inhabitants of the Several Townships on the Frontiers in Northampton County, of the Common Wealth of Pennsilvania, from the Troops and Adherents of Great Britain during the present War, according to the Act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsilvania, passed the 21st day of September, 1782.

Names, date and Year.	Townships.	Estimates. £	Sh.	d.
	HAMILTON.			
George Learner, In the Year 1780, July 3d.	The whole Amount of Damages done by the Enemy according to the Acct. No. 1.	103	2	3
Jacob Brinker, 1781, July 3d.	The whole Amount of the Damages by the Enemy. No. 2.	10		
Jacob Marewine, 1781, July 3d.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 3.	6	4	3
John Learner, 1781, July 3d.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 4.	1	10	
Henry Savage, 1779, June 5th.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 5.	20		
Nicodemus Travis, May 29, 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 6.	15		
Elias Utt, May 28th 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 7.	5		
John Shaw, formerly in Delaware Township, at Shaholah, 1778.	The whole Amount of all the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 8.	1085	7	7
	CHESNUTHILL.			
John Keisser, within the Time from 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 9.	76	1	
William Serfas, within the Time from 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 10.	4	8	6
John Myers, within do.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 11.	5	8	8
Conrad Haag, within do.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c. No. 12.	6	5	6
Christian Sorber, within 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 13.	1	15	
Frederick Serfas, within do do	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 14.	1	5	

Names, date and Year.	Townships.	Estimates. £	Sh.	
George Kunkle, within 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damage &c. done by the Enemy. No. 15.		9	4
Conrad Becker, within do do	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 16.	3	10	
Philip Croesie, 1780, do	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 17.	39		
	TOWAMENSING.			
Benedict Snyder, 1780, April 7th.	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy No. 18.	19	5	
	PENN.			
William Wall, 1777, Jan'y 12.	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 19.	90		
Benjamin Gilbert, 1780, April 25th.	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 20.	1000		
Samuel Dutson, 1780, April 25.	The whole Amount of the Damages &c. done by the Enemy. No. 21.	19	16	
Benjamin Bird, 1780, April 25.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c. done by the Enemy. No. 22.	100		
George Shellhammer, 1780, April 25.	The whole Amount of the Damages, &c. done by the Enemy. No. 23.	26		
Nicholas Wehr, 1780, April 25.	The whole amount of the Damages, &c. done by the Enemy. No. 24.	37	9	3
Henry Simerson, 1781, Septr 11.	The whole amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 25.	60	3	6
Jesse Thomas, 1781, Septr 11th.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 26.	200		
Philip Slicker, 1781, Septr 11th.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 27.	10		
William Wall, 1781, Septr 11th.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 28.	26		
Thomas Gable, 1781, Septr 11.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 29.	3	10	

Names, Date and Year.	Townships.	Estimates.		
		£	Sh.	d.
Barbara Drees's, widow, within 1781, Septr 11.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 30.	25	10	6
Jacob Housser, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c., done by the Enemy. No. 31.	1	10	
Daniel Ero, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages, &c, done by the Enemy. No. 32.	1	15	
George Shellhamer, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 33.	5		
George Shellhamer, jun^r, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 34.	5		
Sebastian Longberger, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 35.	5		
William Myer, do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 36.	32		
	LOWER SMITHFIELD.			
John Emmons, do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 37.	223		
David Vanauken, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 38.	9		
George Sallady, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 39.	359	17	
	UPPER SMITHFIELD.			
Cornelius Dewitt, within 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 40.	30		
Elijah Middagh. do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 41.	29	9	6
Simeon Westfal, do. do.	The whole Amount of all the Damages, &c., done by Enemy. No. 42.	147	17	9
Joseph Shawens, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 43.	66	15	6

Names, Date and Year.	Townships.	Estimates. £	Sh.	d.
Joseph Cole, within 1775 & 1782.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 44.	166	15	
Joseph Ridder, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 45.	100		
Zachariah Shenkins, do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 46.	10		
James Vanauken Esqr, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 47.	350		
Henry Peterson, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 48.	60		
Abraham Decker, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 49.	10		
James Shimers, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 50.	10		
Lewis Meid, do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 51.	18		
William McCarty, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 52.	300		
John McCarty, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 53.	50	10	
John Conklin, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 54.	8		
Israel Wells, within do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 55.	6		
Peter Quick, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 56.	40		
Morgan Deshay, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 57.	650		
George Heatter of do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 58.	100		
William Halbert, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 59.	120	10	

Names, Date and Year.	Townships.	Estimates. £	Sh.	d.
James Rosencrans Osterhoud, within 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 60.	15		
Ephraim Ferguson, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 61.	45		
Thomas Quick, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 62.	27	3	6
Benjamin Hains, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 63.	59	10	
James Wells, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 64.	350		
Benjamin Cartright, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 65.	85		
John Emmons, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 66.	223		
John Taylor, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 67.	2		
Elias Decker, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 68.	22		
Cornelius Decker, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 69.	12		
John Rosencrans, do. do. do.	The whole Amount of the Damages done by the Enemy. No. 70.	10		
Andrew Dingman, within 1775 and 1782.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 71.	150		
Samuel Decker, do. do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 72.	50		
John Vanetten, do., do.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 73.	9		
	LYNN.			
Theobald Koons, 1780, Septr. 11th.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 74.	10	10	

Names, Date and Year.	Townships.	Estimates. £	Sh.	d.
George Ruprecht, 1778, in April.	The whole Amount of the damages done by the Enemy. No. 75.	8		
	The whole Contents of all the Damages done by the Enemy of the aforesaid Inhabitants of the Several Townships aforesaid.	6996	4	7

We the Commissioners Subscribed in and for the County of Northampton, Do hereby Certify that the foregoing Accounts of Damages &c. of the Several Inhabitants on the Frontiers of the Several Townships aforesaid. We have found by certain Approves of their Neighbours, their Oaths and Affirmations, to be just and true Accounts according to the Act of General Assembly passed the 21st day of Sept^r, 1782—Which said Accounts have been delivered to Us by the Several Township Assessors, and Examined the Same to the best of our Skill and Understanding. Witness our hands at Easton, the 1st day of March, 1783.

HENRY BARNET.
HENRY LAWALL.
PETER TREXLER.

HUGH SCOTT, &c., TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

To His Excellency in Council Of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Whereas, the General Assembly, in their Act of the 28th of March 1781, did nominate and Direct James Edger, Hugh Scott, Van Swearingen Daniel Leet & John Armstrong, or any three of them, to take up or purchase a piece of Land in some convenient place in the County of Washington, and thereon to Erect and Build a Court House and Prison.—In Compliance with said Act, and Obedience to a Subsequent Order of Council of the 26th of Nov^r, 1782. We, Hugh Scott, Van Swearinger, Daniel Leet & John Armstrong, have taken Assurance of a Lott of Ground in the Centre of the Town of Washington, David Hoge, Proprietor of said Town, and is found by the most Accurate Map to be within a Single Mile of the Centre of said County to us and our Heirs, Agreeable to the Affores^d Law.

And do Humbly recommend the Same for the Approbation of your Excellency & Council as a place the most Central, and Best Suited to the Inhabitants of Said County.

We have the Honor to be, with the Greatest Esteem,

your Excely's Most Obedient Humb. Servt,

HUGH SCOTT, DANIEL LEET,
VAN SWEARINGEN, JN^o ARMSTRONG.*

Indorsed,—Read in Council the 14th of March, 1783, and accepted.

T. MATLACK, Sec'y.]

At a meeting of the Trustees of Washington County, Jan 11th, 1783.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XIII., p. 581.

INDIAN SCALPS.

There is due to Alexander Wright, and William Minor, each, the Sum of twelve pounds, ten shillings, specie, amounting to twenty-five pounds, agreeable to a proclamation of Council, for two Indian scalps taken per the within Certificates.*

Compt^r General's Office, March 21st, 1783.

ALEXANDER MCCLEAN TO PRES. DICKINSON, 1783.

Sir, Philadelphia, March 13th, 1783.

Enclosed is an Account of expences, in Addition to the Bill I laid before you. I take the liberty to inform you, that I was under the Necessity of defraying or assuming the Expence herein set forth, to prevent the business being intirely frustrated; as the Militia expected from this State could not be drawn out in time to answer the purpose; & the Virginia Troops being on the spot, We concluded to proceed with the Guard we were then possessed of; And as Coll^o Hays could not possibly overtake us, I kept the Troops from Virginia until their provisions were expended, & then discharged all that I could spare, giving them an Order to draw provisions at Beesons Town for their return home, which appeared reasonable to me, as they were detained longer than was necessary to supply the deficiency of our guard. I hope, therefore, that such expence as we may have charged on their acc^t, will be allowed, as it saved this State a very considerable expence, besides furthering the business, which must have been delayed until the Guard had arrived.—I was not so particular as to take Vouchers for the accounts now laid before you, which, if doubted, must remain unsettled; Notwithstanding, I have paid all but the Chain-bearer, and must pay him at my Return; And as the close of the Sessions is drawing nigh, I would be happy in having my accounts settled as soon as possible, having an immediate necessity for it.

Coll^o Hays will be able to give Council such further information as may be necessary; as also to shew to Council the expence that has attended it; & as the expences charged in his accounts against Virginia are very trifling, I Request they may be discharged by this State; for, in Justice, I think they ought to be, as they certainly saved this State of an expence, which must at least have been double ———Viz.: that of drawing out the Militia and supporting them when there.—As to my own wages, having met with divers disappointments, I rest in the breast of Council, and only charge the days in actual Service.

I am, Sir, with Regard, your most Obedient and very Humble Servt,

ALEXANDER M'CLEAN.

N. B.—The Money Credited in my former acc^ts I settle with Coll^o Hays.

Directed, John Dickinson, Esqr, President.

* See Col. Rec., Vol. XII., p. 538.

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